



The VOICE

JULY 2022

ISSUE 50

www.gms.bucks.sch.uk

As my article for this summer edition of The Voice I would like to share with you the speech that I delivered at our Celebration of Success event on Wednesday 13th July.

IMPORTANT DATES

School closes for the Summer Holidays on Tuesday 19th July at 1pm.

Years 7, 10 and 12 return to school on September 5th.

All other students return to school on September 6th.

A Level results are published on 18th August and GCSE results are published on 25th August.

KEY EVENTS at GMS

Please note all our important dates and events, including Parents' Evenings and Examination Timetables, are available on the website and are regularly updated.

"When I started to think about my celebration of success address this weekend, as is always my approach, no point in starting with a blank piece of paper, the best place to start would be with my last speech, and in this case the last speech was at our last physical event was in July 2019.

Immediately, I thought, well not a lot has happened in the last 3 years! Pretty uneventful!

Since 2019, we have continued to operate the school with our core values of Excellence, Compassion and Integrity as the core pillars to our decision making. Very early in the pandemic, and something I had always known, but it became very clear in the pandemic, that at times whatever decisions we made as a school we would never satisfy everyone, very often people want polar opposites! And still do.

It seems to me that too many people strive incredibly hard, too hard, to make everyone agree that their point of view is the correct one. Sometimes it is entirely reasonable and appropriate for people to have different opinions and entirely reasonable and appropriate to say 'I do not agree with your opinions but I respect your right to have a different opinion'.

Despite all of the challenges, of the past few years, we have tried to operate the school as close as possible to normal, whatever normal might be for a very large secondary school! As we believed that children needed that consistency, continuity and security of experience and still do.

I am incredibly proud that every member of staff at this school works with endeavour and creativity to ensure that the school lives up to its stated ambitions to be a place where opportunities are created, potential is realised and excellence is achieved. We are always striving to work, with increasing effectiveness, in partnership with our students, parents/carers, and the local and wider community. This is to achieve our vision of being the highest quality learning environment which inspires our students to be compassionate, successful and resilient contributors to a better society.

Our curriculum is fundamental to achieving our vision and we are very proud of the broad and rich curriculum that we offer at Key Stage 3 and the excellent range of subjects' students

can choose to study a Key Stage 4 and 5. The richness of our curriculum is delivered through, high quality teaching and learning, lesson after lesson, each and every day. In these lessons, students develop their depth of knowledge and understanding and the essential skills required to apply this knowledge to variety of situations and circumstances.

On the subject of skills, My Personal Best is still a fundamental part of our curriculum within the school focusing on the 6 Rs, of Respect; Readiness; Reflection; Responsibility; Resourcefulness and Resilience. These skills are explicitly developed in students in all individual subjects and lessons as well as in our extensive extra-curricular programme. Please prepare for the 7th R coming in September which is...R for Reading.

All of the Rs are essential skills if our students are going to be compassionate, successful and resilient contributors to creating the better society that we strive for.

The return of normal external examinations this summer term for students in Year 11 and Year 13 means that the results in August are awaited with 'extra' excited anticipation, I really do hope that the students and teachers' reap the rewards of their efforts. As I have said before, there is far more to life than examinations but their importance should not be underestimated.

Our broad and rich curriculum, during the main part of the school day is enhanced considerably by the extra-curriculum programme we offer before and after the main school day and during the weekends and school holidays.

Over the course of the year, opportunities have been made available to every student in the school, to further develop their ambition and aspiration with a huge number of educational activities, visits and trips. Students and staff this academic year have visited areas of outstanding natural beauty, towns, cities and explored galleries, theatres, exhibitions and universities.

In school we have continued to organise, develop, and host

Don't forget to view the online gallery for photographs relating to many of the articles in this newsletter.



plethora of academic and cultural activities that enriches the work of this school and strengthens our position at the heart of the Marlow community. Over the past three years, we as a school have led on the Marlow Schools' collective approach, to increasing our school communities' awareness of environmental issues and challenges. At this point I would like to say thank you to Miss Addy who has taken the Eco work on from me and established a formidable group of Eco warriors in our school, and under her leadership successfully achieved our Eco School Green Flag award.

Last December, saw the fantastic stage production of Peter Pan, led by Mr Ross, with significant support from several other members of staff. The performances will live long in the memories of the people who saw it. Particularly, in that due to a COVID outbreak amongst the cast, Mr Ross had to take to the stage for the final performance, not playing one but two parts. I was assured at the time that Mr Ross had not deliberately infected the students with COVID, so he could get on stage.

Last Friday saw us host our first ever Summer Fest, incredibly well attended and supported by our school community and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the staff involved. Particularly Miss Jeremiah who took on the position of the whole 'Eavis' family in organising our answer to Glastonbury but also to Mr Kidd and Miss Bateman who organised the music performances and dance performances respectively. It is not true that we will be allowing camping on the school field at next year's SummerFest to deliver a closer to the real Glastonbury experience.

Physical Education, Sport and Physical Activity at GMS is an integral part of the school, the quality of the curricular provision, breadth of sports played, quality of performances continues to grow year on year. Physical activity is not just for health and physical fitness, it also has a very positive effect upon an individual's mood, releasing positive endorphins, but the element that people do not often know... is that exercise also increases the number of brain cells and particularly, the interconnectivity between the brain cells. As I have written and said before, in simple terms, physical activity can make you healthier, happier and brainier!

The sports awards' evening will be held at school this Friday and the rowing awards dinner on Monday evening, at Eton Dorney. The projected combined attendance for both events is over 600 people, this is a true testament to the strength of physical activity and sport at this school. Combined the PE department and the rowing coaches have been involved in over a 1500 practices for students and well over 350 competitive fixtures this academic year.

GMS Sporting activity continues, this weekend, as we will have a large contingent of students rowing at the British Championships in Nottingham. There are a couple of sporting achievements that really do deserve a separate mention this evening. This winter our girls Under 18 indoor hockey team, after 4 years of phenomenal commitment, dedication and expert coaching were one of only eight teams who qualified for the National Finals. Usually these finals are only frequented by the most affluent and advantaged private schools.

Our rowers regularly compete at a national level and performances of distinction this year have resulted in 19 national medals. A particular mention should go to the Year 11 boys 4 who won two gold medals consisting of Joe Cogan, Owain Meredith, Will Clayton and Sal Dunn and coxed by Dan Pressling. In addition, the following students have gained national selection for the forthcoming Home International Regatta: Henry Gavin, Hugo Loretto have been selected as the England pair and will also race in the 8 for England and Emily Downing has been selected to represent Wales.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to be an important feature of life at GMS, students from Years 9-13 have successfully completed their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards this year. When you talk about personal development including character development and resilience, this is one fine example.

The compassion of our students, once again, has been clear to see through the charity work that students in all year groups have been involved in this year. We continue to support a number of local, national and international organisations including: the One Can Trust who we will be collecting for again, as is tradition, on our final day of term next week.

One of the most heartening occurrences during the second half of this academic year has been the way in which the wider community of Marlow and the outlying villages responded to the Ukrainian refugee crisis and the number of people and families who have opened their homes to these refugees. As an over-subscribed school with all year groups full this could have presented a challenge for us at school with many of these refugees being children and understandably their accompanying adults wanting them to maintain their schooling.

Ultimately, as school with compassion and integrity as a key values, there was no dilemma and the moral imperative was clear we had to welcome these children into school and support them in the best way we possibly could. To date we have welcomed 20 Ukrainian children in to our school community, more than any other school in Buckinghamshire, and when we talk about the 6Rs (and My Personal Best). From day one these Ukrainian children have epitomised what it really means to be resilient and resourceful but by the same measure our students have shown fabulous responsibility and respect in the way in which they have supported, encouraged and help settle these children into our school community.

We have been very proud, also, to have appointed two Ukrainian teachers join our staff to support these children with learning English and support in other subject areas.

It is at this point I would like to thank every member of school staff for their continued hard work, commitment and enthusiasm. I would particularly like to thank the members of staff that through their discretionary effort really do go the extra -mile for this school and its students.

To the Trustees who give so willingly of their time and challenge us to improve the school even further; to the members of Friends of Great Marlow who raise much needed funds to support the school; and to you the parents/ carers who week in week out support us and your children with unwavering commitment.

A very strong personal thank you to the Leadership Team for their continued hard work, professionalism and for 'picking the ball up, when I have occasionally, dropped it'.

At the end of an academic year, it is the traditional time of the year when we say goodbye to colleagues who are leaving the school. So I would like to recognise this evening as they are here, the members of teaching staff who are leaving GMS this summer.

Firstly, please can I say thank you to Mrs Hattam who has been working in the Art dept this year, Mr Gilpin and Miss Bateman for their work in their Physical Education department for the past three years. Mr Shaw and Mr Olubari for their work in the Maths dept and Miss Franklin for her work in the Science department, all of whom are moving to work at schools closer to where they live.

After 5 years at GMS, Mrs Fry is leaving the English department to work at Reading Blue Coat School and after the same amount of time at the school Mr Wilson is leaving to be Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form at Lord Williams School in Thame. Mr De Nysschen after 6 years at GMS is leaving the Science department to also work at a school closer to home in North Buckinghamshire. After 8 years at GMS as Head of Computing Mr King is leaving to take up a new position at Waingels School in Wokingham.

After 10 years at Great Marlow starting as a newly qualified teacher and becoming an excellent Head of English, Miss Bevan is leaving to join Newlands School in Maidenhead as an Assistant Headteacher. And finally the last member of the teaching staff leaving this year is Mr Taylor current Head of Statistics and former Director of Learning, who is retiring after 15 years at GMS.

Please join with me to offer those members of teaching staff a round of applause to wish them all the very best for the future."

Very best wishes for safe and happy summer holidays.

Best Wishes

Mr Kevin Ford, Headteacher

SUCSESSES IN THE ART DEPARTMENT

We've enjoyed another busy yet successful term in the art department this summer, with a plethora of exciting projects, KS4 and 5 moderation, and exhibitions to boot!

We are incredibly proud of all of the work our students have produced this academic year, and always love seeing the culmination of talent, hard work and perseverance in outcomes when it gets to this point in the term. Our students at KS3 have produced some absolutely stunning portraiture works, both in the Year 7 heritage and identity project, and in Year 9 with their drawn studies. Year 8 have been hard at work perfecting their sculptures based on popular puns and idioms, and we've enjoyed trying to guess the imaginative and creative expressions they have so artistically reimagined!

We received some amazing comments from our AQA moderators following their visit to survey the work of both our Year 11 and Year 13 exam groups in June. Some of the talent we had on display was likened to that at degree-level, and we revelled in the opportunity to showcase this with an eye-catching and dynamic display of work at the hugely successful 'GMS Summer Fest', where parents were equally as complimentary about the incredible outcomes that were on show. We have also just returned from an especially successful external visit to Oxford Natural History Museum and the Botanic Gardens, where Year 10 were invited to collect source material for their upcoming coursework project which commences in September. We are proud to say that all students demonstrated exemplary behaviour and positive attitudes whilst on the trip, and we're looking forward to seeing what ideas they come up

Year 7

Year 7 have enjoyed studying the life and artwork of Frida Kahlo and have produced their own responses, including references to their heritage and identity, using watercolour and coloured pencil. They have produced some really lovely outcomes which they will be refining over the summer holidays. Well done Year 7!



with for their new projects next year.

Lastly, we bid a fond farewell to two of our lovely staff members this term, both who joined us earlier this year to cover a maternity post. Mrs Cate Stevens, who relocated at May half term, and Mrs Hattam, who we are saying goodbye to on the last day of the summer term, have both secured roles elsewhere and will be sorely missed by the team here at GMS. We wish them both all the best in their next endeavours. We are incredibly excited, however, to welcome Miss Jade Moyse into the art department fold. Miss Moyes begins as a full time member of teaching staff in September, and is excited to put her extensive knowledge and creative practice to the test. We are sure she will hit the ground running!

All that leaves us to say, is a huge well done to all of our students for completing this academic year and producing some truly outstanding work. Rest, relax and recharge over the summer holidays, and return to GMS ready and raring to tackle 2022/23!

By Mrs K Joseph-Steward - Head of Art & Design



View more photos of GMS artwork in our gallery on the website.

Year 8

Year 8 have concluded their pop art theme by designing and constructing well known idioms and puns using cardboard and tissue paper. Their resilience and creativity have been outstanding and they have produced some very successful outcomes. See if you can guess the puns in the photos!

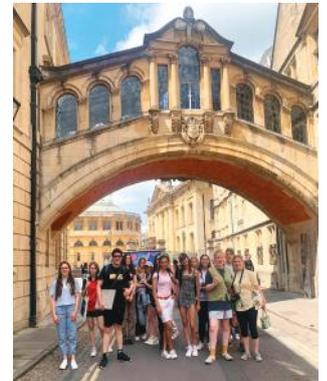
Year 9

Year 9 have been studying typography artwork and have produced their own typography portrait outcomes incorporating words relating to their lives, interests and personalities. We have had some beautiful outcomes this year and we look forward to many of our Year 9s taking GCSE Art in September.



Year 10

Year 10 have been developing their food & drink themed outcomes, which they will finalise over the summer holidays. They have started to think about their second project and visited the Natural History Museum and Botanical Gardens in Oxford to begin developing their second project. It was a beautiful sunny day and they really made the most of the opportunity – one student took over 400 photographs of the flora, coral and bone specimens! We can't wait to see what they produce next year!



By Mrs J Hayward

Food & Nutrition and Hospitality & Catering

This term Year 10 have completed a mock practical, showcasing higher skilled dishes which reflect the skills that they have learnt this term. We had the opportunity of watching some excellent food being prepared, and we were astounded by some of the original concepts that were presented. Here are a few of the highlights



'The Platinum Jubilee' was the theme for Food Club students

This month marked the conclusion of this year's food club season, during which students enjoyed creating a wide variety of culinary delights from Cinnamon Swirls, Pizza Pinwheels and Coronation chicken wraps to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The students all have a fantastic time, and we are looking forward to continuing with a similar club next year.



Year 10 RM students utilise their creativity and construction skills

Year 10 have been making phone holders, from mild steel. They have learnt how to use the centre lathe and cut external threads using a die.

The outcomes are excellent and show all the hard work they put in paid off.



A plethora of textile projects come to fruition

Year 8 Textiles students learn to create a storage device for small personal items based on the theme of 'All Things British'. The new skills include applique and applying a patch pocket. Students can also utilise their prior learning from year 7. This term's results were outstanding!





Year 9 Textiles students have been investigating the impact of Textiles on the environment. They also designed their own print which they applied onto some fabric to include on their Loungewear product (suitable for all those who still work from home for part / all of the working week).



Surface decoration explored by Year 7s in textiles

Year 7 have been working on their design movement bags, however this time, students were challenged to take an "instagramable photo", the results showed the students having fun presenting their unique final products! The bags used surface decoration skills such as, tie dye, fabric paints, fabric pastels & fabric pens.



Year 10 spent last term manipulating fabrics. They utilised this learning, combined with a basic block template, to create their own design for a skirt. Students also had the opportunity to embellish their fabric, using their prior learning. These images show only a small selection of what were fantastic results!

By Miss R Addy



Calling all aspiring actors - auditions in the Autumn Term - we look forward to seeing you!

Drama

DRAMA AND MUSIC CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION - A CHRISTMAS CAROL BY CHARLES DICKENS

Following on from our very successful Peter Pan Production, we are excited to be starting on our Christmas 2022 production, 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.

The performances are scheduled for Wednesday 7th December and Thursday 8th December.

Auditions will be held on the following dates.

- Wednesday 7th September from 3:15pm to 4:30pm (Main Casting)
- Thursday 8th September 3:15pm to 4:30pm (Smaller Roles and Call Backs)

The cast will be announced on Monday 12th September.

To help aspiring students succeed in the auditions, I will put the audition scripts in all students Teams Form area before the summer holiday.

Please note these are open auditions. Also, the main role of Scrooge can be played by either a male or a female student. We are experienced at conducting auditions and managing the expectations of students: inevitably some will be disappointed at not securing their favourite role, but there is an understanding that a production on this scale is very much a team effort, where every role is important.

As with all other productions, there must be a commitment to attend rehearsals. A schedule of dates will be given to cast members to check with their parents and carers before they accept any role.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me ross@gms.bucks.sch.uk.

By Mr S Ross



Short Story Competition winners

This year, students and staff have been treated to the GMS reading initiative: Drop Everything and Read. Every half term, different members of staff have read a short story to the whole school community. Stories about time-travel, a mysterious landlady and a man with wings have all featured from a range of diverse authors - Ray Bradbury, Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Roald Dahl. However, our most popular author has been one of our very own students. Ava Salinas entered the GMS short story writing competition and, against strong competition, was our overall winner. Ava's story was read by Miss Addy. Published here are the top four finalists (Paige Smith, Zeinab Hassan, Lois Peek and Ava Salinas) Take time to enjoy these very creative tales from some exceptional students.

By Mrs C Legerton

English

Ava Salinas
Short Story Comp.

I remembered a distant memory in my troubled times. Memory's that held value to me and affected my approach to situations despite me being almost completely unaware of their existence. Me and my father used to go on walks in the country lanes discussing everything from why morally ambiguous characters are the best to raging about how the movie adaptations of Steven King books were almost never as good. Our conversations always held the air of knowledge, not the kind where we would talk about how smart we were but the kind where we seem rooted and down to earth. Saying our conversations had morals to them describes them more accurately. One conversation I had with my father I remember far better than the rest, it's like I recorded it and it's stuck-on loop, maybe it's because it applies to my current situation. The conversation came about when I expressed my hatred for the word evil, it makes it seem that the world is split into good people and bad people. How can one word that's so simple describe the complicated workings of the human mind? Good people can do bad things and bad people can do good things is a phrase I remember him repeating more than once. Just because people do good things doesn't make them a good person, someone can devote all free time to helping a charity only to purposely cause a car crash on their way home. I like to believe that no one is born with malicious intentions, but they aren't usually caused either, this isn't completely factual because of the existence of sociopaths and psychopaths. Psychopathy is usually used to describe someone who has done horrible things by society when it is in fact a lack of empathy. I bring all of this up not to sound smart but because it describes a situation, I have recently been in to a tea. Jasmine was a good kid, somewhere it went wrong but at some point, in her life she held morals. She was miraculously smart and effortlessly pretty, she tried to always be understanding of those around her. She had many friends and I'd like to say I was the closest to her yet that would be lying, and I don't want to tarnish Jasmine's legacy more than she already has. When me and Jasmine started drifting away from each other I was unfazed, all good things must come to an end. When I saw her talking to other classmates, I sometimes saw something behind those eyes that seemed different from happy to help. When comforting others, she was easily able to manipulate them "I'm the only friend you have" "I would never do that to you". Her ability to have everyone wrapped around her finger scared me and I regret admitting I never told anyone about the malicious intent swirling in her eyes. The decision I made about not informing any teachers of Jasmine's actions is one I will regret until my dying day. My only comfort comes in the fact that someone else tried to confront her. In the moment the accusation was spoken you could see Jasmine's powerful façade fall and shatter but only for a split second. She regained her composure and explained away anything out of the ordinary she had done, her words were so powerful that she had a grasp on the accuser's mind by the end of her speech, Jasmine was dangerous. I'm not sure if she always was but she was then. I regret not getting Jasmine help because the memory of the sweet girl that once existed had faded away to be replaced by the ones of her now, the change was too drastic something must've happened. But maybe she was always manipulative, maybe it's only now I'm seeing it because back then we were close, I was the one who was manipulated but I can see it now clear as day from an outsider's point of view. Jasmine wasn't evil, she was a good person who did bad things or maybe she was a bad person who did good things, we'll never truly know. Despite Jasmine's newly found cruel nature I'm working to sustain her legacy, to promote the good and the bad of Jasmine Wright because I still cared, through years of only glancing at each other in school hallways as we passed and changing more than my mind could fathom, I could still find a place for her in my heart. I want people to see that once she did have good in her and she wasn't always what she is now, I need people to know Jasmine was once a good person. I remember why I feel inspired to do this for her every day when I remember her face as she looked down at the harm she had caused. It wasn't one of realisation, she had been perfectly aware of her actions from the start. It was the look of regret.

Most people say I'm blinded by grief and I can't bring myself to disagree, part of me knows the reason I'm doing this is to cope with the new uncomfortable empty feeling inside. I finish the last cord on my guitar the song a mix of random notes that fit with Jasmine's random character arcs. I set the instrument down, so it covered the name on the grey slab. I had decided that Jasmine's story should end here, it had been years since my wish to re-write her legacy had died. Through the years the empty feeling was the only thing that didn't leave me. I walked towards my car lurching off out of the car park and into the golden horizon. I was the only person who knew Jasmine's legacy still and I decided to keep it that way. I had sealed off that part of my life and had no intention of ever returning to it because now that I let it go, I was free of my responsibility. Freedom tasted bittersweet, a balance of good and bad, heroism and villainy, faith and mistrust. It's a balance that we all have inside of us, we just sometimes add more weight to the scale.

A Steampunk Story by Paige Smith

BANG

"OW!... again...?"

I'd hit my head on my desk about three times today. I've gone through multiple pairs of goggles just from the previous ones being broken from the force, luckily these ones didn't break.

"Damn. I need to get this finished and stop fooling around!"

I have a project I need to finish for the Mayor, my first project, the automatic shovel failed. It ended up snapping before I could even get to the Mayor's office.

I picked the blueprints up, "I'll just have to finish it when I get there! Or else I'm going to be late..."

As I ran through the streets I decided to look around to get a good look at the place, as far as I know this is called the 'Steampunk Era', it makes sense as every little thing you see is either mechanical or old, rusty and it doesn't work anymore. I read about all this in a book I found in my boss' office!

"Ah! Kiana! I'm glad you're here!"

He sounded so happy to see me? But I thought he was too busy...?

"Mayor! It's uh... lovely to see you too?"

"Why do you sound so... unsure?"

"Oh, I'm very sorry I just thought you were too busy?"

Was I making a fool of myself? No, Surely I wasn't, he will like my new breath-taking invention I'm sure of it!

"I was, but the young chap I was meant to be meeting was unfortunately too busy to come and see me..."

"Ohh right okay! Well, I'm sure you'll absolutely LOVE the thing I've come up with this week!"

"And I'm sure I will! Well, come show it to me then! I think, Kiana, you're the most anticipating young lady I've ever met..."

He doesn't really think that does he? No, surely not!

"Oh, why thank you Mr. Mayor!"

"Please, Call me Jhon..."

Huh. He went back to his seat and sat down, offering me to come and sit in front of him to show him my newest... thing... I don't know whether to call it an invention or not?

I sit, and pull it out of my bag.

"This, this right here is what I like to call the 'mechanical pencil', it's just like a regular pencil but, if you flip it, it turns into a pen! Double the use!"

Awkwardly, I laugh. Oh no. He doesn't like it does he...?

"And.. what exactly can you do with this... mechanical pencil?"

"Well, you can draw with it! Make sketches and then make notes with the pen side!... Double the.. double the use!"

"Right..."

He stood up, walking over to the window. I suddenly got a... chilling? Feeling...

"Kiana, tell me... will this be like your... other inventions?"

"NO! Not at all! I tested it a million times before and-"

"Kiana."

He cut me off. Why...?

"That invention of yours that you called the 'City Safety'..."

"Yes..? the invention I made to try and keep the city safe? You accepted it, what's wrong?"

He turned to me, a serious look on his face.

"Tell me, Kiana. What is the meaning of life to y-"

Before he finished I heard a loud bang and suddenly there was a loud ringing in my ear.

"Kiana!"

"Kiana!!"

"Kiana Wake up!"

Huh... Where... am I...

By Lois Peck

PROLOGUE

Joe Parker, 48, is a New York City electrician.

Joe's boss- "Hello, Joe?"

Joe- "Yep, where am I off to today?"

Joe's boss- "You have a big job this afternoon, the bomb shelter underneath the New York Presbyterian Hospital."

Joe- "Bomb shelter?! That's so far, can you send someone nearer? Also why is there a bomb shelter under the hospital?"

Joe's boss- "I don't really know, been there since the 60's but the wiring for the lighting is down you have to do it, you're the man for the job."

Joe- "Fine, tell them I'll be there by 2:30."

An couple of hours later, Joe makes some final adjustments. He notices a small flash but knows it must be one of the lights of the circuit board. Proud of his work, Joe picks up his bag and leaves through the heavy metal door of the bomb shelter.

Lisa Miller, 27, is an artist from Brooklyn.

911 operator- "911 what's the emergency?"

Lisa- "I... Ambulance! I've fallen! My head, please!"

911 operator- "Okay ma'am, where are you?"

Lisa- "I fell of my bike by the river... in Dumbo! Brooklyn! I'm next to the café, Bluestone!"

911 operator- "Okay, we know where you are. Medics will be with you in approximately eight minutes. We will take you across the Manhattan bridge to the Presbyterian hospital. Okay?"

Lisa- "Yes"

After having been rushed into the hospital, Lisa was told she would need an MRI scan. She lies in the machine with the overwhelming noise of whizzing and

buzzing; quickly, she opens her eyes to see a small flash, assuming it came from the machine, she closes them again quickly. Moments later, the bed slowly slides out of the MRI scanner.

A few moments later the same day...

Silence. One of the busiest hospitals in New York City was silent. Joe had finally finished his work in the bomb shelter and was ready to drive home to his family. He looked around at the daunting, empty, building... Not even a single soul walking the once crowded hallways. It was only 4:30, he knew for a fact that the hospital wasn't closed. Joe stood in your typical hospital, hand sanitiser dispensers decorating the wall, long wide hall, endless rooms, the strong and lingering odour of disinfectant, except it was completely silent.

Beginning to take a few cautious steps, Joe realised something must've happened as there was no other logical explanation. The hospital felt almost nostalgic, yet intimidating and eerie. He felt uneasy, like he was not supposed to be there. With his own eyes, he saw a door open and close before the lock clicked, but no one was there. Joe sped up, running down the hallway, terrified. Turning a sharp corner into the waiting room, he froze, something just touched his shoulder.

Lisa opened her eyes. Scraps of silver metal were strewn across the room. The shining white MRI machine hummed loudly and the big black clock clicked, it was 4:30. She suddenly realised she was alone, everyone was gone. There were no doctors or nurses sitting at the desk or standing by the door as there had been previously. Lights around flashed and alarms were blaring, the computer was on, showing a big warning sign on it. Her heart began to race. "What's going on...? Help! Is anyone there?" she shouted. No reply. Suddenly, the door started to open and close by itself, swinging on the groaning hinges. She could not understand what ghostly force was moving the door. Lisa wiped the sweat off her forehead with her shaking hand.

Lisa was horrified, she didn't even want to breathe. To even move a muscle felt impossible, where had everyone gone? Suddenly, the room fell silent, which scared her even more. She then felt a gust of wind on her leg and something touch her arm. Lisa knew the only thing she could possibly do now was to get out of there. She crept out of the room hesitantly...

Suddenly, Joe heard a noise a few rooms away. A crashing sound, followed by hasty footsteps walking out into the hallway he had just been in. "H...Hello?" he whispered. The footsteps stopped. Holding his breath, he began to sweat. "Can you hear me?" A high-pitched, shaky voice asked quietly. He poked his head back around the corner, to see a wide-eyed girl standing still in a white hospital

gown. She was young with curly brown hair and olive skin. "What happened?" She questioned, brows quivering nervously. "I don't know. Joe, by the way... my name." he showed a slight smile. "Lisa" She walked down the hallway looking into each glass window of each room, "looking for sign of life". Joe nodded, deep in thought. " This can't be happening," he stated, "it's... it's impossible, everyone has vanished!" . Lisa looked at Joe, "I was having an MRI scan and when I came out everyone was gone. The only thing making a noise was the machines." She shuddered, feeling uncomfortable. She just wanted to go home.

The disappearance of all the people who had been in the hospital felt unnatural, paranormal. Even the mysterious lone woman Joe had met made him feel slightly disturbed and suspicious. Why was she the only other person here? He was an average man and Lisa was an average young lady, they didn't know how to deal with a situation like this. Lisa sat down on one of the blue waiting room chairs, legs shaking. Her eyes were darting across the room as Joe watched her attempts to steady her own breath.

Suddenly the pair looked up simultaneously, as an icy wind blew around them. Doors slammed by themselves, and they could hear bustling, knocking, even footsteps. Lisa tip-toed over to Joe nervously, trying not to make even a sound. Until, everything went quiet again. Silence.

EPILOGUE

Doctor H.- "Hello, is this Rose Parker?"

Rose Parker- "Yes, that's me, can I help you?"

Doctor H.- "My name is Doctor Hillary from The New York Presbyterian Hospital. I'm sorry to inform you that whilst making electrical repairs in our shelter, your husband was electrocuted at 4:30PM."

Rose Parker- "What? Where is he? Is he in the hospital? Is he okay?"

Doctor H.- "Unfortunately he did not make it. I'm sorry ma'am"

Joe Parker is dead.

Doctor B.- "Hello, is the Jamie Miller?"

Jamie Miller- "Hello? Yes?"

Doctor B.- "I'm Doctor Bryant, I'm so sorry to have to tell you this, but there was a terrible accident today when your daughter was having an MRI scan."

Jamie Miller- "What do you mean? Is she hurt? I don't understand?!"

Doctor B.- "I'm terribly sorry, your daughter passed away at 4:30PM this afternoon. I am sorry for your loss."

Lisa Miller is dead.

The darkness

The darkness of the room engulfed me as I squinted my eyes to see something in this pitch black room. A layer of cold sweat formed on my skin as I fumbled to pull out my flashlight from the waistband of my jeans, failing as it fell from my slippery grip and landed on the concrete floor with a loud thud. I jumped at the sound, my heart beating at a hundred miles per hour as I bent down to look for the flashlight to see where I am.

Accumulated dust of years lay thick upon the floor as I swiped my hand across, picking up the remains of the particles on the tips of my fingers. The cold metal of my torch somehow rolled towards me, scaring me slightly as I picked it up and tried to figure out how to switch it on.

The circular torch turned on as I moved it around the once dark room with my shaky hand, looking at the blandness of it. There was nothing here, just me and my torch. My legs aimlessly moved around the room as the beams of my torch moved with me. My erratic breathing stopped when a trap door came into sight.

I was swift, silent and furtive with my movements, like those of a trained bloodhound picking out a scent. My hand glided over the dusty doorknob and I pushed with as much strength as my tired body could muster. The door creaked open and my curiosity got the better of me as I stepped out of the bland room and into a dimly lit corridor.

My blood ran cold as my eyes looked over the floor that was covered thickly with the prints of naked feet - clear, well-defined, perfectly formed. The only thing that stood out was the red liquid that the footprints were made up of. My skin was cold under my clothes as I sliently followed the footprints, my breathing spiralling out of control as the adrenaline in me urged me to keep moving. I stopped as a whisper called out to me, followed by an earth shattering scream.

I pushed myself to run away, but my feet were frozen to the ground. The corridor fell dark, the once dimly lit place was now nothing but black. My torch blew out as the silence swirled around me. The howl of the wind prickled my skin and I saw something standing at the end of the corridor.

"Who are you?" The words fell out of my mouth in a whisper. My eyes looking around for something... someone.

"Death!" A voice, dark and gloomy, high with a pinch of dryness, answered back, sending a gush of wind towards me as she appeared steps away, with just a flick of her fingers.

I screamed, jumping up and realising I was in the comfort of my bed. I released a sigh of relief, until I saw her, standing at the foot of my bed.

"Hello..."

Darkness.

By Zeinab Hassan

Year 12s visit Hampton Court Palace

The Year 12 A-level History students visited Hampton Court Palace as part of their early modern studies. We spent the day exploring the palace grounds and how it became the seat of power during Henry VIII's reign, under Cardinal Wolsey. The contemporary writer John Skelton famously condemns the Cardinal's riches, criticises his foreign policy dealings and accuses Wolsey of trying to be Henry VIII's equal when he says:



Why come ye not to Court,

To which Court?

To the King's Court,

Or to Hampton Court?

We observed the Tudor obsession with ornamental chimneys which number 241 in total and Wolsey's desire to show off his classical knowledge and cultural sophistication with the palace exterior which is adorned with Roman emperors. We learnt the origins of the word eavesdropper through some rather creepy faces hidden in the ceiling of the Great Hall and how the court functioned whilst at the palace.

We moved beyond the Tudor period and saw how the palace intersects with the later Georgian addition that resembles the Palace of Versailles and observed how the Tudor and Georgian parts of the palace have been used in different ways over the years as the power of the monarchy has changed. Apart from our rigorous historical examination of the palace we also noted where and when different parts

of the building and grounds had been used in recent films and programmes.

In the afternoon we had an expert led session on the mid-Tudor Crisis using the palace as source. The students got fully involved in the session and they use the architecture and sources to decide if in fact there was a mid-Tudor crisis.

We all had a lovely day, walking in the footsteps of some of England's most famous monarchs.

By Mrs S Bullock



Year 7 Castle Competition



Year 7 students the whole year, have recently designed and built castles using household items. The students worked individually or in pairs to produce some amazing castles; some had explanatory booklets and others pictures to show how hard they worked on their project. The castles ranged from classic English, Welsh and Scottish castles to Japanese inspired castles. The History Department, Mr Wilson and Mr Pendlebury spent much of the day judging many different castles and we managed to create a shortlist of finalists:

Harry Jones and Daniel Parry (7K2), Tai Cheston (7K3), Erin Bowers (7K3), Lyla-



Rose Jacobs (7E1), Anatasia and Anna Antonenko (7E2), Alice Naphine (7K3), Will Mingey and Tom Mann (7K1), Connie Greenhalgh (7H2), Brooke Prouse (7K3) and Sofia Mills-Miguel (7H3)

From this shortlist and after much deliberation, (owing to the fact that the castles were so fantastic), the following prizes were awarded:

1st Place and overall competition winner – Lyla-Rose Jacobs (7E1)

2nd Place – Tai Cheston (7K3)

3rd Place – Joint third with Brooke Prouse (7K3) and Sofia Mills-Miguel (7H3)

Director of Learning's Award – Connie Greenhalgh (7H2)

Head Teacher's Award - Anatasia and Anna Antonenko (7E2)



Shortlisted finalists all received Headteachers Awards for their castles. The winners also received a certificate and prize.

Well done to all of Year 7 for their amazing castles!

By Mr

Year 11 French students help out at Holy Trinity School

On Thursday 7th July Holy Trinity had a French day for their year 6 pupils and a group of year 11 French students volunteered to help out. Here is an account of that day written by Lucy Scott.

“Wow what a day it had been at Holy Trinity where I went to help out at their French Day along with Sam Johnstone-Taylor, Lucia Rico, Amélie Holder, Abbie Stewart and Isaac Grottrup. I started my morning with a sign in and a tour. What a brilliant school! There were modern tablets in reception and safety locks with codes all around.

The day began pretending to be in baggage area of a pretend airport as the pupils were going to pretend to fly to France. This is where I and others from Great Marlow school spoke a lot of French to the children, with phrases like “votre sac s’il vous plaît” which means “your bag please”. Once we received their bags, we placed a boarding ticket onto their luggage and pointed them to the aeroplane where the children was able to experience an airline breakfast which consisted of a cup of juice (apple or orange) and a croissant. To see the smiles on the children’s faces as they walked down the hallways was amazing.

Shortly afterwards me and a few others went to passport control. There were three stations set up with two people on each. At the back of the room was a collection point for all phones and valuables. Once the children had safely landed in France, in columns of three they made their way forward forming queues in many directions. Each one of us spoke to the children and had a conversation with them. We asked to see their ticket “votre billet s’il vous plaît” and other simple questions like what’s your name? “Comment t’appelle tu?” Some children found it tricky to answer but with a hint they managed to, whereas others were able to answer right off the top of their heads.

Next was break time, and we were able to mingle with other helpers from Borlase in the main hall, make conversations and get to know each other.

Soon after break we were spread and put to work in a souvenir shop and a theatre. I started with selling Paris key rings asking them what they would like to buy “vous désirez?” and what colour “De quelle couleur?” Other

objects available to purchase were a beret, a postcard, and a key ring with their name on. When I was working as a vendor their resilience in continuing to attempt the correct French was inspiring to say the least given, they had learnt most of these skills on a computer screen they were using it at an exceptional level for their age



I was very impressed at their skill and creativity when imagining scenarios during role-play as well as their ability to adapt to new vocabulary I had given them.

Lastly, I was impressed by the level of detail that Madame Naylor and the staff had put in to create this scene. They came up with all the decorations and hung them around the school.

The teachers created imaginative game boards for the children to play after they had been on a shopping spree - the games mapped out the exact route and activities they would have done in France before Brexit. There were spaces allowing advancements if they can use the correct French which almost all did as well as missing turns to observe the sights, of which I certainly did lots and finally a quite amusing space towards the end where it sent you back to the start because you forgot your passport. The game was genuinely enjoyable for the children who already understand the value of competition and sportsmanship as very few complained when they lost.

Someone else who played a part in the French day representing Great Marlow said “As an ex-student of the school I went on the trip they were simulating, and this replacement was almost identical to the real thing”

Holy Trinity’s year 6 is truly wonderful year group to work with and it was a well thought out event.”



By Lucy Scott - Year 11

JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE 2022

This year, in the Junior Maths Challenge, over 100 students took part. The number of students entering has increased year on year. GMS Maths Department always encourages independent study in preparation for this event, as it reflects on students' resilience and resourcefulness, that independent study is reflected in these awards.

CONGRATULATIONS to

Kavin Ravikumar – Gold; he achieved the highest score in the school – well done.

Silver Awards went to Nikita Johnson, Brodie Kennedy, Albie Collins, Alexandra Bartosz,

A Bronze Medal was awarded to Joey Timson, who achieved the highest score in Year 7 – well done.

Bronze Medals also went to Joel Blatt, Alex Blatt, Ronak Chana, Freddie Hayday, Leon Koplin, Max McKay, Daisy Mitchell, Sebastian Pearce, Benjamin Richter, Kayla Shillito, Apoorva Singh, Matty Smith, Megan Sylvester, Abbie Weedon, Dan Wetenhall, William De La Force, Joshua Goult, Alice Naphthine and Sean Stevens.

Huge congratulations to everyone who took part, not just the medal winners. Thanks to the Maths Department who take time to organise this event several times in an academic year and especially Mrs Bansal, who takes the lead.

Gold: Score in the top 7% of the UK

Silver: Score in the top 13% of the UK

Bronze: Score in the top 20% of the UK



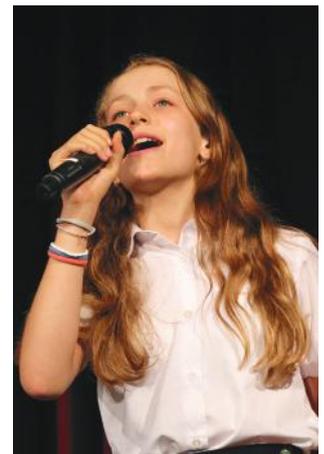
MUSIC STUDENTS PERFORM FOR THE WIDER COMMUNITY

It has been a very busy summer term in the Music Department. The students have performed at several events, showcasing their outstanding musical talent in school events and within the community.

In May, Great Marlow School performed in the Cookham Music Festival at St John the Baptist Church, Cookham Dean. Jackson, Dan and Paul (all Key Stage 3) formed an ensemble and joined students from surrounding schools in a festival that celebrates the musical talent of young musicians. Jackson, Dan and Paul's commitment and dedication to rehearsing regularly throughout the year paid dividends, performing superbly to a full audience and to musicians that were mainly from Key Stage 4 and 5. The band (in their first appearance together) represented Great Marlow School superbly and we look forward to more performances from the band throughout the year.

In June, the Music Department visited Foxes Piece Primary School and Burford Primary School to welcome all Year 6 students to Great Marlow School. A variety of ensembles and soloists performed a thrilling concert for the students, showcasing the outstanding musical talent across all age groups at Great Marlow School. The concert featured the Wind Band, trumpet and piano soloists and multiple Pop and Rock bands and included a wide range of musical genres. To add to the special occasion, students of Foxes Piece and Burford School asked several questions to the musicians about Music at Great Marlow School. The musicians undoubtedly inspired the soon-to-be Year 7 students of Great Marlow School and performed superbly.

In July, students from the Music Department thrived upon the opportunity to perform at the first Great Marlow School Summer Fest. Reporting on their experience are Paul (drums) and Lyra (saxophone):

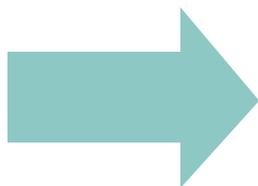




"I loved summer fest because I got to perform to people who I didn't know very well. I also got to play and accompany my friends, which I found great. There were breaks in between performances, which meant we could rehearse in practice rooms or even just take a break! This was one of my favourite experiences of the year." – Paul H, Year 7

"I had an excellent experience of the festival held at GMS on Friday; it was a nice opportunity to socialise and to get involved in many different things. The festival was a good occasion for my family to visit GMS for the first time, since I started at the school. I thoroughly enjoyed performing and listening to the music and hope to perform again soon!" – Lyra W, Year 8

By Mr O Kidd - Head of Music



YEAR 12 ASSESSMENT RESULTS SPRING 2022

This department offers A-Levels in three subjects: Ancient History, Politics and Law. All y12 students following these subjects sat formal assessments in June.

Ancient History

Sophie Wakefield came top of the class, closely followed by Nabeel Ahmed in second place and Reuben Metcalfe in third.

Politics

Martin Bignall came top of the class, closely followed by Noah Grottrup in second place and Emilyne Essalah in third.

Law

Mackenzie Orice was top of one class with an A* score of 94%, closely followed by Emily Taylor with 90%. Chloe Britnell was third. In the other class, James Tipler and Ryan Karam were joint first with Emilyne Essalah in third.

By Mr S Pugsley - Head of Department



Ellis Kippax, Harry Sheffield, Sam Third, Jakub Kaczmarek

GMS GETS A NEW SCHOOL ECO POND

In the Summer Term our Year 9 Science students have been designing a new School Pond - investigating UK species, freshwater habitats and eco-friendly construction materials! The students worked in small groups developing their unique ideas that ranged from Frog Friendly habitats to Mindfulness and wellbeing themed sanctuaries. The finalists then briefed Head Teacher Mr Ford before their design is put into action later this year with the support and help of Friends of Great Marlow!

By E Brassington



Science KS3 Science News

Science



Magic Milk

The summer term has been a busy term for the Science department! The scientists at Science club have been carrying out many experiments every Monday afternoon with Miss Westie. They have put their creativity and construction skills to the test with building boats out of recycled

materials – which we are pleased to say that all boats managed to withstand the weight test – with some boats featuring a tiny tin foil pirate aboard! As well as this, we have been creating bird feeders, planting sunflowers and even making milk appear magic! The students at Science club have been incredibly hard-working and committed to the club all year and we are very excited to welcome them back in September to become role models for our new Year 7 students that will be joining.



Build a boat!



Beat thebuzzer!

Annabelle, Charlotte, Isobel and Saoirse also attended the GMS Fest and ran a 'Beat the Buzzer' stall which was very popular. The Beat the Buzzer was extremely difficult but we had a few successful parents and students who made it through the complex wire course without connecting the circuit, despite the breeze causing a few wobbles! Miss Bennett, Miss Franklin and Mr Sturt also carried out Pony rides on the field with ponies, Sid and Tino – Both ponies were a huge



Tino enjoying the sunshine

hit and very well behaved the whole afternoon. Thank-you to all involved with the running of the Science activities at GMS Fest and an extra special thank you to Mr DeNyscchen and the Science technicians who created the Beat the Buzzer' – We look forward to the next one!

Last but not least, Year 8 had an amazing 'Energy Quest' workshop during the final week of term lead by Connectr. Our visitors were thoroughly engaging and set our students the challenge of helping a group stranded in the woods – with one injured, no maps and a phone relying on it's 1% battery! The students came up with sustainable solutions to keep the group safe using only the resources around them and the items found in the groups backpack. This included making a phone charger out of fruit. Below, you can see some of the students who presented their shelters, water filtration systems and phone charger circuits. We were really grateful for the opportunity to run this workshops and hope to run these again in the future.

As you can see, KS3 Science has been exceptionally busy this half term – and this hasn't even started on the lessons that we've had the joy of delivering. The students have been creative and confident in their learning and we look forward to building on this when they return in September. We hope all of our scientists have a happy, healthy summer break – we will see you very soon!

By The Science Team



Eco-Schools Award

This year the student body of Great Marlow School came out in force to support the application for Eco-School Status. With the current count of Eco Warriors standing at 46 students, we are proud to announce that we are now an Eco School after all of our contributions.



Over the past year, the students have created bee hotels, bug hotels and planted wildflower seeds to support our biodiversity pledge. We have developed a passion for horticulture, shown in our beautiful displays of plants and flowers seen around the school. We have also tackled the massive problem of litter and recycling by working with the canteen to reduce packaging and provide dedicated bins to support recycling.



Keep Britan Tidy charity stated, "We hope that you and your Eco-Committee take great pride in your achievements. From planting lots of trees with the Woodland Trust to community litter picks and raising awareness of environmental issues, everyone involved should be incredibly proud of the changes they have made! Congratulations to everyone for the great work you have done, earning your Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. You should all be very proud of your work and the application you have submitted!"

We are proud. Not only has the school worked on internal projects, but we have also teamed up with community members. Litter picking with Marlow Wombles, Starting the process with Solar for Schools, and meeting with Wild Marlow & Chiltern Rangers are just a few ways we have opened our gates to work with and support the community of Marlow.

Freya Barnes said, "After finding the incredible Eco Warriors group, we decided it was time to bring more awareness and attention to the disaster in front of the school - climate change

and air pollution. We began litter picking, campaigning, and event planning. With the help of one of our amazing teachers, Miss Addy, Mrs. Lammings, and Miss Ashby, we put together a dedicated and hardworking group of students. Not only have these

incredible students managed to change the environment inside our school, but outside as well."

We couldn't be more proud of our new green flag that will proudly fly on the school's flag pole from September.

We will continue our Eco-Schools journey next year by embracing new challenges. Our first mission is to restore the once beautiful pond area. The Science Department has organised and hosted a competition to research and design all aspects of this new development. The winning presentation will be selected by Mr. Ford and put into action. We are incredibly grateful to Softcat, who has supported the pond's development and kindly agreed to sponsor the make-over!

Thank you to the staff, parents, careers, friends, and family of Great Marlow. Without all of you, we couldn't have made this possible.

Thank you,

By Miss R Addy

congratulations
to everyone
involved

GMS SUMMER FEST, AN ABSOLUTE TRIUMPH!!

This year for the first time Great Marlow School held an event aimed at bringing together the whole school community and celebrating the life and culture at Great Marlow. Organised by staff and FoGMS, the students also played a huge role in showcasing their work with stalls and performances in a Festival style event that ran through the sunny afternoon into the evening.

Pony rides, food stalls, local artisan vendors, ice cream and glitter all added to the fabulous afternoon of fun and celebration. The weather blessed us as we all enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere while listening to outstanding Music performances and watching the amazing Dance summer showcase. Student led stalls invited the crowds to try their luck at numerical games, race to get the baby ready, beat the buzzer and lots more with prizes to be won.

Beautiful displays from the school's Art department was admired by all alongside the astounding cake competition entries! The hard work of our students really shone and they enjoyed talking to our visitors about their school projects from Biomes to badges.

FoGMS were a huge part of the event, their bottle tombola was an absolute smash, with people needing boxes to carry home their winnings and the silent auction along with the bar and ticket sales has collectively raised well over £3000 for the school with cash still being counted!

We hope you enjoyed the event as much as we did and thank you for coming along to support the first and hopefully not the last GMS Summer Fest!

By Mrs S Jeremiah



GMS WELCOMES OUR NEW YEAR 7'S

On Tuesday 5th July we welcomed our September 2022 year 7 students to Great Marlow School. There was a high level of excitement in the quad, where they all met and interacted with each other.

They spent the day in their forms getting to know their tutor and the other students in their form. They completed a range of activities – a personality shield, a 'getting to know' you quiz, a 'first thoughts' activity and the name game....hopefully they all went away from this day having learnt some new names.

Thank you to the year 7 tutors for all of your hard work and for the staff who helped support the day. The year 7 tutor team in September are;

- 7e1 – Mrs Joseph-Stewart 7e2 – Mr Beswick
- 7e3 – Mrs Babes 7h1 – Mr Higgins
- 7h2 – Mrs Griffith 7h3 – Mr Grosart
- 7k1 – Miss Boddy 7k2 – Mr Day
- 7k3 – Mr Bradley

The students also got to experience the canteen. They embraced the ques, enjoyed the lunch options and had a good chat during their free time. They were lucky enough to watch the gym and dance show which showcases the fantastic work on some Great Marlow School dancers. This will be showcased at the Summer Fest at Great Marlow School.

The induction day was supported by the Great Marlow School community and current students.

A big thank you to our year 7 helpers – Danny Harding, Emily forder, Ivo Chamberlin, Scarlett Wakefield, Taylor Smith, Ella Seeley, Theo Young, Olivia Coyne, Joseph Reeson, Gioia Di Monda, Demitri Johnson, Alice Farrow, Luke Harding, Lyla Rose Jacobs, Leni O'Brien, Lizzie Horan, Harrison Buckle & Elisabetta Kerr

Also a big thank you to our year 10 prefects, you were all a great help.

Lastly, a big thank you to Carys Hughes in year 9 who also helped on induction day and Rocco Di Monda in year 12 who helped support the event as part of his work experience. At the end of the induction day Rocco went and interviewed some of the year 6 students to find out how they found their induction day at Great Marlow School. He asked them to sum up their day in 5 words.

Right: here is what they had to say....

The induction day was followed by the year 6 induction evening where we welcomed the parents/carers of our new students. As part of the event we heard from some current students. They were fantastic! The time and effort they put into their speeches was recognised by all and their pride in the school was clear. Well done to Paul Hawkins, Lexi Togwell and Maddie Jones for being part of the evening and speaking to our new parents/carers.

Mrs Flannery and I are eager to welcome our new year 7s in September 2022. The term starts for the year7s is Monday 5th September.

Have a restful summer.

By Mrs N Messenger
Dof L Yr 7



Eagles E1- Frankie - Good, friends(new), Big, Nervous, Worried

E2- Sophie - Fun, change, big (intimidated), exciting, surprising.

E3- Gilbert - Fun, exciting, nervous, enjoyable, Happy.

Kites K1- Misbah - Fun, interesting, Enjoyable, Delightful, Welcoming.

K2- Olivia - Exciting, nervous, scary, happy, complicated.

K3- Gracie - Amazing, enjoyable, fun, scared (scary), exciting.

Hawks H1- Braden - Exciting, nervous, settling (comforting), welcoming, friendships (new).

H2- Isabella n- Awkward, interesting, nice, new, surprised (by size).

H3- Eliza - Fun, exciting, Intimidated(by size), surprised, happy

I have been extremely proud of Year 7 this year. They have grown so much from quiet, shy students at the start of Year 7 to confident and maturing students at the end. I have continued to be impressed with the contributions Year 7 are making to school life; from sports teams to creative clubs, like music and drama, as well as their contributions to the school on a daily basis.

Y7 FLAG COMPETITION

During May and June, the Year 7 team ran a 'Flag Competition'. The aim was for students to design a flag which would link to the topic of 'celebrating diversity'. Students could take the title of the topic and interpret this in their own way. Year 7 registration times were given over to students to design and enter their flag entries. On closing of the competition, there were well over 100 entries from students across year 7. The tutor team narrowed down the many entries to a short list as seen here:

Choosing a top 3 and the winner was extremely difficult. Tutors, Miss Hyde (SSO) and myself had a really difficult time deciding on who should be in the top 3.

In third place was **Diyari Rodgers** with a fantastic design which showed excellent creativity as well artistic skill. Well done.

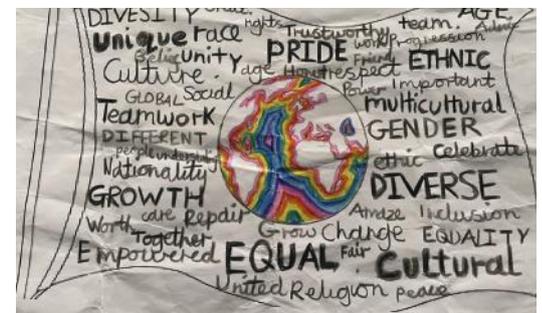
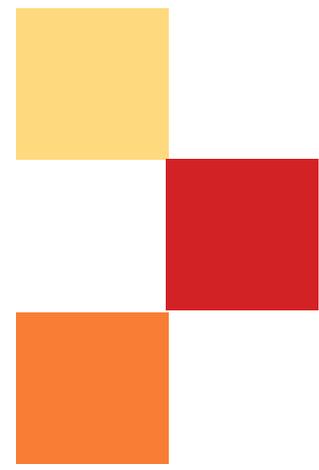
In 2nd place was **Ella Williams**, the Y7 team particularly like the phrase in the middle "one flower doesn't make a garden". A fantastic effort Ella.

In first place was **Olivia Hansford** with her striking design.

We felt this bold and detailed design would look excellent on a flag, especially as it celebrates so many areas of diversity. Olivia will now work alongside the GMS Design and Technology Team to refine the flag idea and have a real flag made complete with her design.

Well done to all our entrants, the standard across all form groups was extremely high.

By Mr S Wilson - Director of Learning Year 7



The winning design by Olivia Hansford



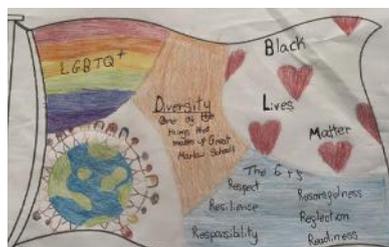
Alice Farrow 7H3



Bella Street – 7E1



Grace Hull and Elodie Knott – 7H1



Tyla Bennet – 7K1



Ella Williams – 7K1



Lizzie Horan and Kemisha Browne –



Diyari Rodgers – 7H2



Jay Reeson – 7H2



Mogan Campbell – 7H2

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time this year as Director of Learning for Year 8 and have had the pleasure of watching our students continue to thrive in their lessons and in the wider opportunities that they have had.

The summer term has been an exciting one for Year 8; from fantastic progress reports this term to the camp night at the beginning of June, the year group has had plenty of opportunities to build relationships and demonstrate the values of the schools through the '6 Rs'.

DRIVING FORCE FOR ECO-SCHOOL

Year 8s have continued to demonstrate responsibility for real-life issues this term; this has been demonstrated through the eco-reps continuing to drive environmental friendly initiatives. Every student in Year 8 has been given a tree to look after for a year at home and I have heard from a large number of students how they have been caring for their trees and I have been particularly intrigued by some of the more imaginative names that some of the trees have been given!

PROGRESS REPORTS

Our Summer Term progress reports were extremely impressive considering the disruption that our Year 8 students have had to deal with over the last few years. Attitude Towards Learning is excellent with only a handful of students with 3 or more 'Inconsistent' marks for ATL. The majority of students in the Year group have achieved all 'Good' or 'Excellent' marks for their ATL which is a reflection of the culture of aspiration and respect that our Year 8 students have helped to establish. Well done to the students below who achieved this: Please input this data from SIMS as with previous Y8 entries to the Voice.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Year 8 have taken advantage of several opportunities including the recent Camp Night at Westhorpe Park which took place on the hottest day of the year (Friday 17th June). They have recently had a morning off timetable participating in a Shakespeare Workshop arranged by Mr Ross and another morning off timetable taking part in a Science 'Energy Quest' activity.

As I am sure you are aware, the summer term is one that presents many challenges for every year group. Year 8 have managed the end of term assessment period admirably and I have had the good fortune to be able to visit our students in lessons across the whole school. I have been struck by the positive learning environments that our teachers have created for the students and in the exceptional attitude towards learning that has been consistently demonstrated by Year 8.

CHANGES TO THE D OF L ROLE

I am sure that you will have seen the recent ParentMail communication explaining the changes to Year 9 from September.

Miss A Miles will take on the role of Acting Director of Learning for Year 9 from Tuesday 6th September 2022. This will be as maternity cover until Miss Tuddenham returns to resume her position as permanent Director of Learning. I will be taking on the current Year 7 cohort as they move into Year 8 from September. Miss Miles and I have met to ensure that both the previous and present pastoral and academic needs of our Year 8 cohort have been discussed and shared. This will ensure that we can continue to positively support our students.

AND FINALLY....A BIG THANK YOU

I would like to take this chance to say how much I have enjoyed working as Director of Learning for Year 8. I have worked with Year 8 since they started GMS at the beginning of Year 7, both as a form tutor and now as Director of Learning. I have been consistently impressed by our students and by the culture of inclusion and ambition that they have established. I am sure that they will continue to flourish under the guidance of Miss Miles and I know that she is excited to begin working with them as they begin Year 9 in September.

By Mr S Taylor- Director of Learning Year 8



The majority of students in the Year group have achieved all 'Good' or 'Excellent' marks for their ATL which is a reflection of the culture of aspiration and respect that our Year 8 students have helped to establish. Well done to the students below who achieved this:

YEAR 8 100% ATTENDANCE

Spring 2022

Kai Bhudia
Pixie Cherrington
Eleanor Cummings
Theo Fraser
Archie Gentry
Guinness Orla
Bruno Noviello
Natasha Pendlebury
Finlay Todd
Lyra Wells
Aeron Willis



Year 8 Shakespeare workshop



Year 9 News

Achievement points:
Our cohort's top
achievers are:

Chloe S 580
Rosie M 400
Bradford N 348
Tayla B 279
Sophie R 273
Paige S 270
Veronika L 268
Sophie H 255
Kiera B 245
Sophie N 244

The Year 9 cohort are coming to the end of their first uninterrupted (no Covid related lockdowns) academic year at Great Marlow School since joining us in Sept '19. With the focus this year has being re-establishing routines and respect for the school community the students have shown resilience to achieve this - Well done to you all.

Students have been supported throughout this process by the fantastic Student Support Team – particularly by Mrs Connor-Price (Year 9 Student Support Officer). The students and parents/carers (and myself) are grateful of her support and recognise her commitment to their progress in all aspects of curricular and extra-curricular life - A huge thank you to you!

GCSE OPTIONS

The process of selecting their GCSE was carried out digitally this year with much of the information being disseminated via recorded videos and MS Teams. The tutor team's support at this time was fantastic and ensured that all students had the opportunity to gather the information they needed to make informed decisions. Mrs Messenger (Acting Year 9 DoL at the time) supported the students throughout this process through advisory conversations with the students and the coordination of the entire process. The GCSE Options process was successful, and we have secured 4 GCSE option choices for each student following the unfortunate disruption to the process after May half term - Thank you to Mrs Messenger and the Tutor Team, and to the parents and students for their understanding and patience.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Numerous individual successes have been had across the cohort with students reaching high levels of competition in their extra-curricular activities. Bonnie competed in the Dance World Cup in Spain, Ethan being selected by Swim England to attend the National Talent Development Programme and Mika being selected to represent the UK and join the GB kickboxing team to name a few! Many of the Year 9 cohort have even taken on coaching positions within their area of interest and the development of their confidence and maturity is evident - Keep it up!

CAREERS NETWORKING

On the 7th July, all Year 9 students participated in the Careers Networking event, giving them close contact with employers and employees in the local area. The aim of this event was to raise the students' awareness of the possible sectors and roles they may find themselves in the future. It was an important opportunity to develop their professional networking skills and to ask the questions they may have about the world of work directly from the people in such roles. In preparation for this event, students completed form time activities to think about future careers and familiarise themselves with some of the terminology that may be used on the day. They also researched some of the sectors and employers that were to be present to ensure they have some questions planned.

The engagement on the day was fantastic - the students represented the Year Group brilliantly by asking great questions to the employers and being open to discussions with people from sectors they had not previously thought of - Thank you to Ms Southon creating such an opportunity.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports have recently been published and display an overall positive picture with a majority of the year group achieving "good" and "excellent" Attitude Towards Learning scores across all subjects. The responsibility these students show towards their progress and learning is admirable, they should be incredibly proud of themselves.

All students in the cohort have spent one morning reviewing their Progress Reports and setting themselves two targets for September 2022 - They will work closely with their form tutors to monitor their success of these.

ATTENDANCE:

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the students in the cohort with high attendance percentages.

Well done to you all - studies show that higher attendance correlates to higher grades at GCSE.

Your level of responsibility taken to be in school each day is appreciated - Keep it up!!

I wish all of the Year 9 students and their families a lovely summer break.

I look forward to welcoming you into your GCSE year on September 5th.

By Mrs J Webster - Director of Learning Year 9

Top Attenders with 100% attendance:

Haashim A 9E1

Miles F 9H2

Hugo L 9E3

Grace A 9H1

Umar A 9K1

Thomas B 9H3

Other notably high attenders:

Kristian B 9K2

Freya B 9K1

Kaitlyn B 9H1

Olivia B 9K1

Nina B 9K3

Joshua B 9E2

Samuel T 9K3

This has been the most challenging year for the Year 10s. Having not had a complete school year since year 7, to come back and be starting GCSE courses and then ending the year with their mock exams has meant that students have had to work especially hard this year. I am extremely proud of our Year 10s for doing this and for rising to meet such a challenge.

Throughout the mock exams the vast majority of the year group were prepared, diligent and showed excellent levels of responsibility for their exams. Already some of the grades being awarded to the students reflect this level of effort. I would like to thank Miss Blanco-Rand, the Year 10 Student Support Officer, who works tirelessly to support all students in the year group. I would also like to thank my great team of tutors, who have made such a difference in helping the students get back into routines and especially with regards to the mock exams, have helped to guide the students through this process. We will continue to use our tutor times into next year to focus on revision and study skills in preparation for the November mocks and their final exams in the Summer.

ATTENDANCE

Overall attendance for Year 10 for this year was 92.1%. It is great to have so many students turning up for school regularly as there is a clear link between academic achievement and attendance. We would like the figure to be closer to our school target of 96% and we are continuing to monitor and track this every few months with strategies being put in place to address this. For many students we are seeing very positive changes and progress in the right direction. I would like to thank all parents and carers for their support with this as well.

Top tutor group achievers:
Congratulations to all students for continuing to display the 6Rs!

10E1 Oliver Braid 236

Ellees Sengul 218

10H1 Tia Horner 351

Kayla Bradfield 183

10K1 Maria Pajor 267

Joe Mullan 194

10E2 Charlotte Greening 249

Melisa Kinay 247

10H2 Arran Bligh 440

Ella Bristow 254

10K2 Lizzie Megson 281

Evie Jenkins 206

10E3 Monty Todd 251

David Mantle 195

10H3 Rachel Clarke 292

Calum Donohue 220

10K3 Antonia Hay 217

Emma Lumley 189

CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

Huge congratulations to Calum Donohue who has been awarded the Year 10 award for celebration of success. Calum's continuous hard work, excellent work ethic and highest levels of respect he shows around school are why he has been chosen for this amazing award. Well done.

PREFECTS

This Year we started our prefect application process in March; earlier than before. Students applied for the honour of becoming a prefect and we had over 100 applications for 80 spaces. The chosen students have all shown excellent levels of responsibility around school and have been a credit to the school when involved with inductions days and interactions with people from outside the GMS community.

As the process was so successful, we have opened up another set of applications to allow students to make changes and address any areas for development. Some students have really used this additional opportunity to make positive changes and progress.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing all students back in September for their final GCSE year at Great Marlow School.

By Mrs S Wheeler - Director of Learning Y10

YEAR 11 PROM - FRIDAY JUNE 24TH PROM 2022

I write this report a few days after the Year 11 Prom. The event was so wonderfully special, the students should, as always, be really proud of how they conducted themselves. The atmosphere was magical - so much happiness was a joy to behold. Monkton Barn was stunning, and I am so glad it was held at that venue.

As the students arrived, they all looked so glamorous and very smart; they had risen to the occasion by making a first-class effort to 'dress in their best'; they all looked so mature and important. Many took pictures by the glimmer wall, and I know those photos will forever be mementos of this exceptional special prom.

After a welcome drink, many headed to the dance floor, some to the tables. Whatever their choice, every one of them beamed with pleasure as they enjoyed the evening.

I have never seen a dance floor so full for so long; credit goes to the DJ who was excellent for this. He was very complementary about the enthusiasm of our students, which radiated a passion for the evening.

The food was enjoyed and there was plenty of it.

The Awards raised much laughter, clapping and shouting. The Awards were followed by a speech from me, thanking them for being such a special group of students. I felt the prom celebration was a perfect way for the students, and the staff, to end this cohort's KS4 journey.

The evening ended with the DJ playing the 80s classic 'Making Your Mind Up' by Bucks Fizz. I tried to show the students the moves and they did join in! I said to the DJ, "I bet you don't play that very often!"

One last song and then the students left; it was undeniably a sad and proud moment for me as this was the last goodbye. (Not forgetting Results Day, of course). The genuine way in which students said thank you meant everything, and I wish them all every success.

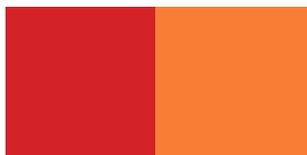
From the comments I have received since, it was a memorable, memorable night.

To make an evening like this a success, it took committed work from my colleagues, who worked side-by-side with me to make the occasion as good as it could be. Firstly, I thank all the staff who came on the night, I hope they enjoyed it, saw what I saw, and took as much pride as I did in witnessing their sheer enjoyment. I would like to thank Mrs Paul for all her work with the year group. The warmth of the applause she received when I thanked her on the night was testament to how much she was appreciated.

Mrs Hayward deserves a huge thank you for all the photographs, Mrs Murray for all the letters beforehand. The finance team, deserve a huge thank you for all the payments they accepted long after the deadline; all the countless reports they did; and for moving really fast to ensure we secured Monkton Barn as the venue. Mrs Glennon, a Year 11 parent, is extended a special thank you for sourcing this venue at short notice and offering her experience to help make this a unique experience.

After everything this cohort has endured in the three upended pandemic years, I am incredibly proud of the way they worked for, revised for, and sat their formal examinations. They deserve nothing but the best and I think they will achieve their goals. As we as a staff achieved our goal of making this prom very special

By Mr S Ross - Director of Learning Year 11



Friday May 13th will live in my memory for a very long time. To say goodbye to compulsory education for the Year 11s was very special.

It started at from time with the students busy signing shirts and then Period 1 we had a Leavers Breakfast. Thank you, Sam and the canteen staff, for organizing this. Then they went outside and just enjoyed each other's company and it was lovely to watch the comradeship and friendship on display. Mr Higgins took some for a game of football and the other tutors were busy signing shirts or giving out extra food and just making sure everyone was having a good time.

Then Period 2 we moved to the hall. It was a very emotional experience for all, and it was nice to see so many staff in the hall to watch the assembly.

Firstly, the band which consists of Arthur McDonald, Matthew Mc Call and Harrison Taggart played the students in.

Mr Murison issued some rowing colours much deserved for the dedication showed by the rowing students.

This was followed by a slide show lasting about 10mins called Year 11 back in time. It showed how they have grown up (or not). The laughter and cheers from the students was lovely to see. I would like to say thank you to Mr Shaw for his work on this.

Moving on then to the band who snag an Oasis number and the rest of year 11 showed their support by cheering and turning their torchlights on their mobile phones. How talented the band is!

Each tutor then said goodbye to their form with a message funny and touching at the same time. Mr Plighting likened the form Tutors to Diamond Merchants lovely analogy of what the tutors do.

Mr Olubari then came and sang accapella the song was beautiful, and the students loved it.

I then gave a review of my time with them and the pleasure they have been to lead.

It was all finished with Mr Grosart leading us in a sing - along with Sweet Caroline and Country Roads. Everyone joined in and it was quite simply a lovely atmosphere.

Then off they went to enjoy the rest of their day hopefully taking in this important milestone in their lives.

I also took a few minutes to think about how lucky I have been to lead this co-hort and to have a great set of tutors and not forgetting the parents and carers.

YEAR 11 TRUSTEES REPORT

I remember saying to the Year 11s at the beginning of the academic year how quickly this will go.

I challenged them to take every opportunity offered to them to make the most of the year but also to enjoy their last compulsory year in education.

I am pleased to say the vast majority did this. I was amazed how many extra revision lessons were given by teachers and also the support given by the tutors and Mrs Paul our excellent SSO.

We gave out revision timetables in the form of a booklet which were well received by the parents and carers, also this allowed students to plan their extra revision.

To help with revision we also signed up with a company called Adapt. The students had a virtual meeting with a person from the company and they then set up their apps. This basically helped them plan a revision timetable and also part of the adapt app was they could tell us how confident they were with the different modules. I think going forward this will help KS4 as we and do it earlier.

With the revision they were able to look back at the three sessions with Elevate and again this helped them. I also targeted some students to come every Tuesday after school so they could do a supervised revision session, as always this was well attended and I decided to reward them with Pizza (a very popular move)!

Finally, I have over the years headed up many Year Groups, I genuinely do not have a favourite as each year group always has its fair share of characters. However, I am aware of the unique set of circumstances this Cohort have had to manage. I just am in awe as I am not sure I would have coped like they did. I look forward to bumping into them from time to time and hear of all the good things they go on to achieve.

I wish you all nothing but success.

Take Care

By Mr S Ross - Director of Learning Year 11



Goodbye and Good luck to our Year 11 Leavers

The Sixth Form team are delighted to report on a successful summer term. It has involved not only the focus and diligence of exams but also the much needed fun and relaxation of the prom. GMS Sixth Form students, who total 289, have conducted themselves admirably in all occasions this summer term and we congratulate all of them.

YEAR 12

Have had an opportunity this term to sit mock exams. This has been invaluable in gaining experience of what the expectations are for their A Level exams next year. It was all the more important to experience the surrounding of an exam due to this cohort not experiencing their GCSEs. The cohort delivered and have understood the importance of these experiences in supporting their learning journey at GMS.

In preparation for Next Steps after GMS, year 12 have spent a week completing work experience. Students have been able to delve into completely different working environments including working for Bucks Free Press, in retail, hospitality, Business and education. We have been overwhelmed by the employers positive feedback on our GMS students, below are a few examples.

“What I have loved about her attitude is that she sets herself daily goals and always want to overachieve on them which is such a great mind-set to have.”

“She has worked hard and supported all departments with many tasks, from helping with banking to working in the shop to deep cleaning and condition reporting the collection in the house, and has done everything with a smile on her face.”

“He has shown this week to have a positive and “can do” attitude towards any task he has been asked to get involved in.”

“She has been a breath of fresh air this week and has shown an interest in journalism.”

“He was punctual and engaged with members of our staff very well. He represented the School very well.”

“She made sure to chat to everyone and get to know them and has been a joy to have here at Little Marlow School.”

“She is a free spirit with a strong mind which I believe will take her far in her chosen career.”

“We are hoping that he may be interested in doing some work during the summer holidays.”

The students can then use this experience to develop new skills in and out of school. To support this further, Year 12 upon their return to school completed a Next Steps day. This was an event organised by Mr Hollyman, Miss Jones and Miss Southern to enable our students to access information about universities, apprenticeships and the world of work. This successful day gave up-to-date information about UCAS and was another opportunity for our students to utilise Unifrog, a complete destinations platform for students. Feedback from the event was positive including the following comment *“everything I needed to know I felt was covered, good info on apprenticeships!!!”*

More feedback also pointed to more support on writing personal statements, so on Wednesday 13th July, Peter Rawlings our Pixl6 link, completed an extended assembly

on what admissions are looking for in a personal statement. This, coupled with the next steps day and Unifrog mean that students have access to all the resources needed to start their next steps process.



DEBATING SOCIETY FOR SIXTH FORM

Congratulations also to Richard Walker and Maggie Boggie, who developed a new Sixth Form debating society this year. With having up to of sometimes 30 students attending the debates; the debating team have ensured that topics are dealt with sensitively and with integrity. Something, the current political system could learn from.

Year 12 have also had the opportunity to put themselves forward for to be a part of the Head Prefect team. We welcomed applications from the students to help with the development and running of the Sixth Form. We are delighted to congratulate both Giana Soomal and Richard Walker as our Head Prefects and Viola Marengo, Annabel Megson, Ibrahim Musoke and Martin Bignall as the deputy prefect team. The Sixth Form Team were blown away by all professionalism of all of the applicants and very much look forward to working with the senior prefect team next year.

YEAR 13/14 LEAVERS' DAY AND PROM

On Friday 13th May, the Year 13/14 students joined the Sixth Form Team for a leavers breakfast. This was an opportunity for us to congratulate the students on their preparation for exams and to celebrate their achievements over the last two years in Sixth Form. They were treated to a breakfast whilst Mr Hollyman gave a final goodbye speech. It was a fitting goodbye to a cohort who had had to develop more resilience due to Covid restrictions. The students then completed their A Level and BTEC exams before ending with the Sixth Form Prom at Hazlemere Golf Club. This was a hugely successful night which was due to the committed Sixth Form Prefect Prom Committee team. Eleanor, Aila and all worked tirelessly to ensure that this final night would be special. They decorated the venue during the day and students partied until midnight. A special mention must also go to Martha Blake who produced a fantastic year book for each student.

We are also delighted to announce our Best Potential Citizen Award. Each year, member so the Marlow Rotary Club kindly come into school to interview students to decide on a Best Potential Citizen. This award recognises students who have gone that extra mile and who clearly have a very bright future. Congratulations to Brendan Vaughan, Finlay Murton and Giana for being named Best Potential Citizen 2022.

August 18th marks results day. The Sixth Form Team will be available in person on that day to congratulate and offer advice and support. We are incredibly proud of this cohort and do look forward to seeing them again on that day and wishing all the best in their future careers – do keep in touch.

For Year 12, we wish you a well deserved Summer break and we look forward to celebrating your achievements upon the return in September.

By Mr Hollyman, Miss Jones, Mrs Evans and Mrs Paul

The Sixth Form Team



Sports awards Evening 2022

On Friday 15th July the PE department hosted their annual sports award evening, after two years of being virtual due to COVID. With over 120 awards to give out, it was set to be a fantastic evening celebrating many sporting successes throughout the last year.

The evening began with a fantastic montage of the 'best bits' from the past year, and YSA leaders Brendan Vaughan and Viola Marengo who opened the show. Mr Ross then stepped in as compare, providing many laughs for the audience. Many awards were then given out for our winter and summer sports, including most improved player, managers player and club person of the year. The second half included the bigger awards sports awards celebrating the successes of many of our students. Well done to the following students who received the following awards:

KS3 Achiever: Will Allen & Yasmin Warnes

KS4 Sports Leader: Liam Bruno

KS5 Sports Leader: Brendan Vaughan

Year 10 GCSE PE Outstanding Commitment: Robbie Gomm & Lizzie Megson

Year 11 Sport Education Most Employable: Milli Guinness & Arthur MacDonald

KS3 Team of the Year: Year 7 Girls Athletics Team

KS4 Team of the Year: U18 Girls Hockey Team

Sports Personality of the Year Nominees: Sophie Apletree, Antonia Hay, Rebecca Tinnelly, Kyle Karam, Joe Lucas & Rafael Quinn



Thank you to the rest of the PE department for their support running the event. Thank you to Mr Ross for comparing the event, Mr Shaw who very kindly gave up his evening to do the sound and lighting, Mrs Rooney for the programme/ literature and photography/ displays, and the extra-curricular support we have received from others throughout the year. We couldn't have done it without you.

By Miss G Muttitt

**“Congratulations to all our nominees
for Sports personality of the Year
2022. It was a difficult decision with
so many talented sports people to
choose from but this year it went to
Rachel Clarke and Ollie Braid, Year 10.”**

Antonia Hay



Antonia is a very polite and well-mannered student, who has embraced the extra-curricular programme here at GMS. Antonia always displays an enthusiastic and positive attitude, often producing phenomenal results with her blistering pace.

Rachel Clarke



Rachel Clarke: Rachel is a gritty, yet intelligent performer. She never fails to give 100% on the pitch, court or track, which has enabled her to be an outstanding leader, and team mate, in multiple different sports. She brings passion and a “can-do” attitude to all that she does, and enters into every activity with dogged determination and a brilliant sense of humour.

Rebecca Tinnelly



Rebecca is a very talented student who can turn her hand to most sports and has represented many of the GMS sports teams. She remains calm and composed on the sports field no matter the occasion. As well as being an outstanding performer, she is also an extremely fair and honest student, who routinely exhibits sportsmanship and graciousness, regardless of the score line.

Sophie Appletree



Sophie is a highly committed, responsible and talented student. She is a talented and tenacious competitor who has made valuable contributions to many of the GMS sports teams over the years. Her performances are always tremendously passionate. She is a highly respected member of the school community, and a fantastic role model to her peers and younger students.

Joe Lucas



Joe is an excellent athlete. He uses his athleticism to excellent effect in all of the sports he plays. Despite the fact he is quiet in his demeanour, his performances on the pitch never go unnoticed as he always has a direct impact on the game with power and speed, not to mention a level of endurance akin to a Brownlee brother.

Kyle Karam



Kyle is a very able student who can turn his hand to most sports. He is eager to produce the best performances he can and his determination during training is a reflection of this. When competing for the school Kyle always works extremely hard and is hugely competitive – he is a formidable opponent for any team.

Ollie Braid



Kyle is a very able student who can turn his hand to most sports. He is eager to produce the best performances he can and his determination during training is a reflection of this. When competing for the school Kyle always works extremely hard and is hugely competitive – he is a formidable opponent for any team.

Rafael Quinn



Raffy is an incredibly conscientious student who works tirelessly to improve his sporting performances and his GCSE PE grade. He is always willing to support GMS Sport and never shies away from a physical challenge. Raffy always gives 110% effort and is a dependable member of our sporting community.

By Mr S Goodright - Head of Department

Overall it has been a fantastic year for GMS athletics, in terms of individual excellence, team successes and mass participation. The PE department are very excited to see what the students can achieve in 2023.

Athletics 2022 Round -Up

The 2022 athletics season has seen a huge number of athletes take to the track and field, filled with enthusiasm for the return of a full athletics programme.

This season provided students with the opportunity to compete against other schools in three separate team competitions; the District Athletics Championships, the District Athletics League and the ESAA Track and Field Cup.

ESAA TRACK AND FIELD CUP

A nationally run, team competition, where students must compete in one track and one field event. Competitors earn points for their team dependant on their time, distance or height achieved. The team with the highest total points, wins.

Congratulations to our Inter Boys' team, who were the only team to qualify for the regional round, which was held in Nuneaton. The boys conducted themselves superbly throughout both of their ESAA events, and were rewarded by beating their personal best points score, twice.

Round 1 Results:

Junior Boys – 277 points (5th place)

Junior Girls – 193 points (6th place)

Inter Boys – 350 points (4th place)

Inter Girls – 275 points (4th place)

Regional Round Results:

Inter Boys – 367 points (4th place)

DISTRICT ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

A local, team competition, for schools in the Wycombe District. Schools may enter two athletes per event, per team. Individuals may compete in a maximum of 2 track, 1 field and a relay, or 2 field, one track and a relay. Athletes earn points for their team based on their final placing.

The GMS teams took to their respective District Championships, in high confidence and determined to continue their reputation as the most dominant co-ed school in the district. The teams did just that, by becoming the 1st placed co-ed school in every single age group except for one.

Congratulations to both of our Year 10 teams, who won their respective District Championships. In addition to this, overall, our combined girls' team finished as District Champions for the first time, beating schools such as Wycombe Abbey, Pipers Corner and Wycombe High in the process. The boys' team finished a commendable 3rd place, behind John Hampden and RGS, so still finishing as the highest placed co-ed school in the district.

Accumulatively, with all results combined, GMS finished as the 1st placed co-ed school in the district with 979 points; our nearest co-ed rivals a huge 446 points behind us.

Year 7 Boys – 85 points (4th place)

Year 7 Girls – 110 points (2nd place)

Year 8 Boys – 121 points (3rd place)





Year 8 Girls – 135 points (3rd place)

Year 9 Boys – 125 points (3rd place)

Year 9 Girls - 91 points (4th place)

Year 10 Boys – 152 points (1st place)

Year 10 Girls – 160 points (1st place)

DISTRICT ATHLETICS LEAGUE

A local, team competition, organised and run by GMS. The two highest scoring competitors for each team earn points based on their final placing.

Year 7 Boys – 92 points (2nd place)

Year 7 Girls – 132 points (1st place)

Year 8 Boys – 116 points (3rd place)

Year 8 Girls – 113 points (2nd place)

Year 9/10 Boys – 121 points (3rd place)

Year 9/10 Girls - 166 points (1st place)

Notable performances:

Congratulations to Yasmin Warnes, who won the Victrix Ludorum for this event. A feat made even more impressive by the fact that she was a Year 9 student competing in a combined year 9 and 10 competition. Yasmin won the 200m and 300m, was part of the winning GMS relay team and also gained vital points in the 1500m.

Congratulations to the following students, who also gained first place finishes in the District League:

Evie Jenkins – Shot Putt

Becky Tinnelly – Triple Jump

Charlotte Greening – Long Jump

Leo Hazlem – Discus

Joely Chamberlain – Javelin and Discus

Lily Nickless – Javelin

Erin Ford – Long Jump

McKenzie Grange – 200m

Year 7 girls relay team

Year 7 boys relay team (in a new school record time of 56.82)

Year 8 girls relay team

Year 8 boys relay team

Year 9 girls relay team

Year 10 girls relay team

Year 10 boys relay team

School records

10 school records were broken at various events across the 2022 athletics season. Congratulations to the following students, who all broke records:

Yasmin Warnes: 2 records High Jump = 1.40m, 300m = 44.74s

Kyle Karam: 1 record 200m = 23.85s

Jack Jones: 1 record Long Jump = 5.95m

Becky Tinnelly: 1 record Triple Jump = 10.23m

Alexander Eldridge: 1 record Hurdles = 12.38s

Lucy Apletree: 1 record 300m = 48.18s

Mckenzie Grange: 1 record 200m = 26.87s

K Karam, L Hazlem, J Lucas, J Lacey 4x100m relay = 47.45s

M Grange, J Hughes, T McDermott, J Frazer-Hogg 4x100m relay = 56.82s

By Mr S Goodright

Great Marlow School Sports Day 2022

We were so pleased and excited to be running a full sports day after 2 years of disruption from COVID. Always wanting to improve on what we do, we kept rowing in (first seen 2019) and added Cyclo-Cross. These events, along with the traditional athletics and tug of war, would enable every student to contribute towards their house points, as well as give them an opportunity to compete in activities delivered in our PE curriculum.

As we moved toward the proposed date, the temperature soared toward the top of the thermometer – this would only mean one thing, adaption would be needed. Now, more than adept at managing change through our extensive COVID experiences, we made the sensible decision to break the event up in to 2 sessions, which would both take place across two mornings to avoid the extreme heat. All events could still be completed, so everybody would still get to enjoy competing against their rival houses in a bid to be crowned Sports Day Champions. Moreover, this was the first full Sports Day with the students in their bird related house – everything was to fly for.

With one of Miss Whelan's ever popular 'Athletics Mazza Playlists' blasting out across the school field, the students enjoyed the experience of competition in their respective events. Cyclo-Cross proved a hit as the students slalomed through poles, went flat out on the straights, and even negotiated a bike ramp, which was kindly made by Mark Barlow our caretaker. Tug of war was a hit judging by the level of noise coming from the students as they cheered each other on in the ultimate team strength battle and the rowing ergos were flat out, as Mr Sloan, GMS rowing coach, set the 3k and 5k challenges for the year 7/8 and 9/10 students respectively. The traditional athletics events were packed full of action as the students ran faster, jumped higher and threw further. . . new sports day records were set as our competent student body demonstrated their learned skills and maintained composure irrespective of the pressure of competition.

Both mornings were superbly successful, and the students enjoyed the musically enhanced opportunity to compete for their house in sport. The weather remained appropriate, and the students learned the valuable lesson that we can still get things done no matter how adverse the situation might be, it just takes a bit of consideration, sensible decision making and readiness.

By Mr S Goodright

Head of PE



Sports Day Results 2022 – Congratulations to Eagles!!



House	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	6th Form	TOTAL
Eagles	371	295	311	367	0	1344
Hawks	399	406	316	265	0	1386
Kites	322	374	305	375	0	1376

BOYS RECORDS UPDATED JULY 2022

	WORLD RECORDS	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
100	9.58s Bolt 2009	K Woolridge 13.0s Handycross 1999	Reese Wing 12.07s Marlow 2015	George Vaughan 11.95s District Athletics 2016	L Sutcliffe 11.10 District Athletics 2019
200	19.19s Bolt 2009	Mkenzie Grange 26.87s District Athletics League 2022	Will Allen 25.93s District Athletics 2021	Kyle Karam 25s County Championships 2021	Kyle Karam 23.85s District Athletics 2022
3/400	43.03s Van Niekerk 2016	Jacob Wratten 47.56s Hillingdon 2014	Cameron Almand 42.22s Handycross 2013	Alex Moss 41.22s Handycross 2014	Cameron Almand 54.0s Marlow 2015
800	1:40.9 mins Rudisha 2012	A De Oliveria 2.34 mins District Athletics 2016	Alex Moss 2.18 mins ESAA 2012	Stan Minter 2.17 mins District Athletics 2019	Cameron Almand 2.06 mins Marlow 2015
1500	3:26 mins El Guerrouj 1998	Casper Chillingworth 5.03 mins District Athletics 2019	Cameron Almond 4.40 mins Handycross 2013	Cameron Almand 04.45 mins Hillingdon 2014	J Southby 4.31 mins Handycross 1987
Javelin	98.48m Zelezny 1996	Oscar Black 25.97 Sports Day 2018	C Searis 32.02m Marlow 1974	Lennie Cavendish 30.44 District Athletics 2018	C Searis 48.33m Handycross 1981
Shot	23.37m Crouser 2021	Reece Wing 9.80m Hillingdon 2014	Reese Wing 11.58m Marlow 2015	Rease Wing 11.28m District Athletics 2016	Jerome Peters 12.72m ESAA 2012
Discus	74.08m Schult 1986	Alex Matthew 25.14m ESAA 2007	Alex Matthew 39.74m ESAA 2008	George Vaughan 25.60m Sports Day 2016	Alex Matthew 29.04m ESAA 2010
Long	8.95m Powell 1991	David Mantle 4.63m District Athletics 2019	Peter Donkin 5.43m Marlow 2015	Cody McCarthy 5.69m Sports Day 2018	J Jones 5.95m Sports Day 2022
Triple	18.29m Edwards 1995	Codie McCarthy 9.02m Sports Day 2016	A Nichol 10.31m Marlow 1997	Cody McCarthy 12.15m Sports Day 2018	D Lewis 12.01 John Hampden 1991
High	2.45m Sotomayor 1993	K Woolridge 1.49m Handy Cross 1999	Carl Smith & Hal Doyle 1.50m Handycross 2013 & Sports Day 2019	Kai McKenzie 1.65m Handycross 2013	P Sanders 1.75m Marlow 1987
Hurdles	12.80s Merritt 2012 (110m)	L Sutcliffe 12.99s District Athletics 2016	L. Sutcliffe 12.5s District Athletics 2018	Alexander Eldridge 12.38s District Athletics 2022	Cameron Daly 13.45s District Athletics 2017 L Sutcliffe 15.0 (110m) District Athletics 2019
Relay	36.84s Jamaica 2012	M Grange, J Hughes, T McDermott, J Frazer- Hogg 56.82s District Athletics League 2022	A Dimmock, H Denson, P Dickson, J Carter 52.09s District Athletics 2016	C Lindsay, G Vaughan, R Wing, J Wratten 50.76s District Athletics 2016	K Karam L Hazlem J Lacey J Lucas 47.45s District Athletics 2022

PE GIRLS RECORDS UPDATED JULY 2022

	WORLD RECORDS	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
100	10.49s Flo Jo 1988	Joely Chamberlain 13.43s District Athletics 2021	Jemima Hay 12.6 District Athletics 2017	Jemima Hay 12.45s District Athletics 2018	Jemima Hay 12.49s District Athletics 2019
200	21.34s Flo Jo 1988	Joely Chamberlain 27.64 District Athletics 2021	Jemima Hay 27.8 District Athletics 2017	Jemima Hay 26.96s District Athletics 2018	Georgia Price 28.3s ESAA T&F CUP 2021
300	35.30s Guevara	Immy Spooner 53.05 Sports Day 2016	Lucy Apletree 48.18 District Athletics 2022	Yasmin Warnes 44.74 District Athletics 2022	Olivia Fyfe 45.5s District Athletics 2021
800	1.53m Kratochvilova 1983	KT Windsor 02:32 mins District Athletics 2016	KT Windsor 2.34 mins District Athletics 2017	Molly Jones 2.32 mins District Athletics 2016	Abi Clarke 2:40 mins ESAA 2012
1500	3.50.07 mins Dibaba 2015	Alba Braybrooke 5.42mins District Athletics 2017	Jordanna Wetenhall 5.22 mins ESAA 2007	Flo Braybrooke 5.35mins District Athletics 2016	Flo Braybrooke 5.26mins District Athletics 2017
Javelin	72.28m Spotakova 2008	Mabel Daw 20.52m Sports Day 2018	Mabel Daw 24.31m Sports Day 2019	Lauren Head 27.60m Marlow 2010	Lauren Head 31.28m ESAA 2011
Shot	22.63m Lisovskaya 1987	Abi Forgenie 8.01 County Athletics 2019	Sophie Knapman 8.43m Helen Windsor District Athletics 2016	Immy Spooner 8.08m Sports Day 2018	Sophie Knapman 8.75m Hillingdon 2014
Discus	76.80m Reinsch 1988	Abi Forgenie 19.82m District Athletics 2019	Harley Stevens 17.23m Marlow 2015	Bethany Lowe 18.35m ESAA 2011	Isla Griffiths 21.96m District Athletics 2019
Long	7.52m Chistyakova 1988	Jemima Hay 4.54m Sports Day 2016	Jemima Hay 4.92m Sports Day 2018	Jemima Hay 5.39m County Athletics 2018	Jemima Hay 5.18 Sports Day 2019
Triple	15.50m Kravets 1995	Aislin Fitzjohn 8.63m Sports Day 2019	Viola Marengo 8.55m Sports Day 2018	Immy Spooner 9.33m Sports Day 2019	Becky Tinnelly 10.23 District Athletics 2022
High	2.09m Kostadinova 1987	Olivia Fyfe 1.30m District Athletics 2018	Olivia Fyfe 1.40m Sports Day 2019	Yasmin Warnes 1.40m District Athletics 2022	Jordanna Wetenhall 1.44m ESAA 2009
100m Hurdles	12.20s Kendra Harrison 2016	Jemima Hay 12.61s District Athletics 2016	Rosie Jones 14.32s District Athletics 2016	Jemima Hay 12.3s District Athletics 2018	Jemima Hay 12.2s District Athletics 2019
Relay	40.82s USA 2012	A Fitzjohn, R Keyes, R Tinnelly, R Clarke 58.12s District Athletics 2019	J Hay, M. Williams G Kisbee, K Windsor 57.2s District Athletics 2018	B Tinnelly, A Hay, J Meek, C Greening 57.02s District Athletics 2021	J Hay, G Kisbee, E Miskell, I Spooner 55.52 District Athletics 2019

Photos of Sports Day can be viewed on the School website



UNDER 13 CRICKET

Cricket this year continued to be a popular sport for year 7 and 8 as over 30 students have trained and represented the school throughout the season. Students showed determination and dedication to enhance and improve their skills and this was rewarded when it came to playing fixtures throughout the term. With ranging abilities, the two-year groups came together to create a sense community and cohesion where you could see new friendships develop over the term.



The under 13s competed in the district cricket league as well as the county cup. Unfortunately, they were knocked out of the county cup by St Michaels in the 1st round, but you could see early on that there were signs of a talented team. Tom McDermott demonstrated his all-round talents with batting and bowling. Thomas Hawksworth bowled superbly which resulted in him getting a hat-trick and Nick MacKay showing his power and confidence with the bat.



Moving into the district league, the under 13s had an excellent season winning 6 out of their 8 games and were unfortunate to miss out on the final's day. However, there was outstanding wins against Sir William Ramsey (who finished top of the league) where we saw Thomas Hawksworth score 30 not out, to guide the team to victory from a difficult position. Also it was good to get revenge over St Michaels winning by a

margin of 47 runs. The game saw Nick MacKay gets his first 50 for the school and Eddie Hoare showing some smart work behind the wickets to get 3 stumpings.

Overall, it has been a successful year for the under 13s, it has seen around 30 boys and girls attend cricket this term with many of them playing cricket for the first time. This success is a great foundation of the future of cricket at Great Marlow School.

UNDER 15 CRICKET



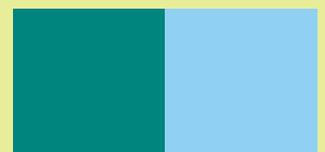
The under 15s this year comprised of year 9 students this with a lot of the students only playing cricket competitively for school therefore it was a year of development for our students. All students that attended training and played regularly made significant progress over this term. Performances may not have produced the results we wanted but there were lots of individual positive performance that made every fixture competitive. George Hewlett demonstrated his ability to bat with maturity and composure as he batted the whole innings against Cressex to set up a competitive total. Harry Price scored 50 against Highcrest where he demonstrated his ability to take advantage of some poor Highcrest bowls. In the final game against Sir William Borlase Tom McDermott and Harry Price showed their all-round ability to bat positively to get the team to a competitive score, and then bowled tightly to push Borlase to the final overs, which included Tom being on



a hat trick. However, we couldn't get enough wickets to secure the victory against our local rivals.

Next year I hope to see the boys continue to progress in the same vein as they have done this year and in turn see them produce the results their hard work deserves.

By Mr A Higgins





GMS TENNIS

The tennis club started up and began well after Easter, with students of all abilities attending. Unlike last year, we managed to play all our fixtures without having to rearrange due to the weather. As well as LTA official fixtures we had some friendly fixtures against Wycombe Abbey, SWB and RGS. These fixtures have allowed the beginner players the experience a range of fixtures.

Wycombe Abbey

Lucy Apletree had some fantastic games against the U15 girls at Wycombe Abbey playing in singles and double matches with Nubia and Charmiane. Emelia Tribe, Eleanor Monks and Izzy Norrish competed in a doubles tournament winning 3 out of the 4 matches. A big highlight for the students was the match teas at the end of the games with the doughnuts being the biggest hit.



Royal Grammar School



We had an U15 LTA fixture and an U13 beginner's fixture against RGS. Arlo baker, Daniel Del Corral, Maddox and Austin Begley played in doubles and singles fixtures in a round robin tournament. Although the boys played with determination, RGS came away with more wins but the experience of scoring developed the boys communication skills and saw many of them heading home to watch Wimbledon – inspired! Jude Rous, Can Sumali, Dylan Denteh and Daniel Parry had some very close games. Dylan and Can fought hard in the doubles match and were 4-2 up, however playing to six, saw them lose 7-5 as the heat started to effect their performance.

Sir William Borlase

Our fixture was touch and go with heavy rain showers. We made the decision to play a fast 4 in case the weather impacted. Luckily we got away with only one crash of thunder and all matches were played. The U15 girls game was a close set of games going down to a doubles tie breaker. The tie breaker ended in a 10-8 loss for the GMS girls. All the players in these matches showed resilience with the scores being so close and weather so changeable. The U15 boys were not so lucky, finishing with a 10-2 loss. Jude had a close singles games going to a tie breaker at 3-3.



The U13 boys played an away game at Borlase. Daniel Parry was injured for this match but attended to support and help students score. Games were played to 6 with Alex Finney, Sam MacRae, Arlo Baker and Dan Wettenhall playing in their singles and doubles matches. Sam fought hard against their club player making him work for the win.



Wycombe High School

We had a very sunny evening to play against WHS. Sophie had a close game winning 5—3. Sophie and Becky also stole the win in their doubles with a final score of 3-1. The overall



fixture ended in an 8-4 loss for us.

Lucy Apletree took a win for the U13 winning 6-4. Emelia, Ava and Izzy despite not coming away with the win played some great tennis with matches lasting to the full 6 games.

Pipers corner

Despite being stuck in a lot of traffic, we made it to Pipers to play the fixture. Sophie played a tough singles match lasting 50 minutes. The students were evenly matched in the doubles and played some good backhand shots. Players were moved around the court a lot. This was a very well-played match.

U13 played a friendly tournament against Pipers. The students played many games not all the traditional tennis to develop skills as well as have some mini competitions. This helped our student's confidence and communication when learning to score the different games.

JHGS - U15 - L 10-2, U13 - L 12-0

John Hamden are always a tough opponent in tennis, and this year proved to be no exception. In the U15s, Ben Murado was pushed all the way to a tiebreaker, and eventually ended victorious after a 55-minute match.

The U13s came up against strong players. The players fought hard, matching the hard serves with strong returns, and fighting to cover the court area. The students worked hard, but unfortunately the results fell to JHGS. However, the performance was fantastic and the effort shown by the players was immense – something they can be proud of.



Amersham

Amersham travelled to us for the next LTA game for the U13 boys and girls. For the girls, Amersham proved to be difficult. They had some physically strong and technical players. The girls battled through each game making it difficult for their opponents. This demonstrated the high efforts and drive the girls had to do their best throughout the entire game.



Can had an exceptional game, dominating his opponent to win his match 6-0. This set the standard and all the team followed suit in their individual matches. Nick demonstrated his outstanding coordination, consistently playing a high calibre of returns to force errors from his opposition. Both Can and Nick formed a formidable doubles team, complimenting each other's styles. Overall it was a good performance for GMS, resulting in a 12-0 win of matches.

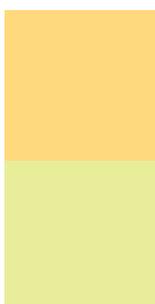
Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School

For the final fixture of the season we travelled to Aylesbury to play Sir Henry Floyd Grammar school. A hot day for a fixture, played on an astro meant both teams had to fight hard against each other. Emilia Tribe pushed her opponent in every game, however, it fell in favour of her opponent. A valiant effort from Emilia. Lucy, Izzy and Ava played some great tennis, with some tidy shots against strong opposition.

It was a tough fixture, but we were happy with their performances, and we had the added bonus of Sir Henry Floyd generously hosting some teas for the girls!

Well done to all the students involved in the matches throughout the year.

By Miss Boddy and Mr Magnay



Leaving very early on a Saturday morning, the u15 GMS Girls Handball Team headed to Nottingham, to represent the South Region in the National Handball Finals. The tournament was played at the University Complex which was hosting both the schools and the club national finals across the weekend. Due to it being such a significant event, all matches were recorded and live streamed to YouTube.

The tournament format was 2 pools of 5, who would play round robin fixtures to determine who the top 2 teams were, who would then head into the semi-finals. Games were 15 minutes long and followed the adult rules of the game, apart from game length.

The girls were nothing less than outstanding all day! From the moment they started their first warmup they demonstrated absolute professionalism combined with a relentless effort. We had purposely worked on our defensive structure as well as our shooting, having reflected on where we could improve, ahead of these finals. Defensively, the girls proved they had progressed significantly, our opposition teams had to work incredibly hard to unlock our defensive line, and even when they did, they still had to score past Rachel Clarke our more than competent goalkeeper. In attack, we struggled. Despite working on new shooting techniques, we were hampered by a lack of height and inability to get in behind our oppositions and unleash powerful attempts on goal. Having lost our goal scoring machine, Emma Vigalo, to shoulder re-construction surgery, we had limited options to find the back of the net. Frustratingly, this would be our Achilles heel for the day. We were matching all teams for attacking movement and defensive organisation but couldn't compete with the shooting. Nevertheless, the girls gave a superb account of themselves and remained both positive and buoyant throughout the day. It should be noted that the runners up (2nd in the country) only beat our girls 3-2 and there was a seriously dubious penalty situation in this game.

We will be back as GMS will continue to develop in this brilliant game – we were a known entity in our own district and county for handball, but this has now extended to regional and national level – 9th in the country, what an amazing achievement.

By Mr S Goodright

GIRLS ROUNDERS

The Rounders teams have been working incredibly hard during this summer term to improve on their batting and fielding skills. The weather has been much kinder to us this year and this has allowed for huge growth within the club with over 60 students turning out in their masses week after week from Year 7 all the way through to Year 10.



Unfortunately, despite the good weather the bad weather appeared on fixture days! However, we did organise fixtures this term with a local private school playing their Year 7/8 and 9/10 teams. All this hard work paid off and we secured strong victories in both games winning with confidence and showing that we are a force to be reckoned with.

The final challenge of the year was the district league where we fielded two teams per tournament. First up was the U15A/B teams; yet again, the weather was on our side and the A team finished 3rd in their group missing out narrowly on progressing to the semi-finals. The B team, however, finished 2nd in their group and progressed through to the next round. Up against some strong opposition the U15 B team finished 2nd in the district.



Next up was the U13 A/B teams; Despite incredibly strong starts from both teams it was not meant to be for the A team who finished 4th in their group. The B team played the best I have ever seen and finished 2nd in their group and through to the next round. The semi-final day approached but unfortunately the pressure got to us and the U13 B team finished 4th in the district.

Well done to every student who has taken part in Rounders club this term. With such strong teams in all years we are all looking forward to seeing what they can accomplish next year!

By Miss Bateman

GMS Youth Sport Award

The Youth Sport Award has continued to play an integral role in the facilitation of both our curricular and extra-curricular PE provision. The additional support that the 6th form students give, helps GMS PE deliver the highest quality PE and Sport experience to all of the students we work with. Due to these students being so well established within GMS, we are often asked by our feeder schools if we can support their sporting events with some of our leaders. Frieth C of E school, a primary feeder for GMS requested such help via Mr Ford. The Head Teacher required help for their sports day – a perfect opportunity for our ever-able leaders to get stuck in and support the wider sporting community. Unfortunately, our 6th form leaders were doing exams on the same day, so it seemed appropriate to ask some year 11s (post their GCSEs) if they would like to go and represent the department and school.

Ably supported by Miss Whelan, our PE Technician and Girls FA Strategic Lead, and Emily Miskell, who replaces Miss Whelan in September, 5 of our aspiring YSA leaders

helped Frieth deliver a huge day of sport, which saw the primary children enjoy traditional athletics events as well as fun games. As always, the GMS students were outstanding, demonstrating excellent communication skills, organisational awareness, a strong work ethic, teamwork and most importantly empathy and support towards the primary children. The Head Teacher at Frieth was so pleased and impressed with our young leaders, he emailed Mr Ford and myself and had the following words to say;

“Just wanted to say a huge thank you for providing the Great Marlow pupils yesterday. They were a credit to you and we could not have done the day without them. I hope they also enjoyed the day”

They certainly did enjoy the day and have said they had a huge amount of fun. Moreover, they are keen to continue their leadership and will sign up for the GMS Youth Sport Award when they return for sixth form.

By Mr Goodright

MULTI SPORTS

This half term saw the multi sports continue to compete in the varsity series. The aim of the series is to allow students to compete in inclusivity events against other schools within the area. The KS3 students competed in two different sports in the Varsity Series this half term. The sports which the students had the opportunity to train and compete in was ultimate frisbee and rounders. The varsity series allowed students to enjoy and try new sports whilst developing lifelong skills by taking part in clubs, tournaments and alternative sports. The students finished 4th in their last competition. The students have thoroughly enjoyed competing in the series this year and are looking forward to representing GMS in next year's varsity series.

By Mr J Gilpin



FLAG FOOTBALL

KS3 students had the opportunity to try a new club this half term, flag football. This is a non-contact version of American football. Students from the 6th form run the club. Josh, Jonathon and Oscar from year 12 demonstrated outstanding levels of initiative, organisation and responsibility. They initiated the idea and started the extracurricular club. The club has given younger students the opportunity to try a new sport which they have enjoyed immensely. The number of pupils attending the club each Thursday increased week by week and now there is a strong contingent of players for every session. Each practice focuses on different aspects of the game positions, line running, throwing and catching and organising attacking plays. The progress the students have made this half term is exceptional. The club will continue next year and look to build on the success of this half term and play fixtures against other schools.

By Mr J Gilpin

DANCE

What a brilliant year for our Dance Club at GMS! The same group of Year 7/8/9 girls have shown fantastic commitment, turning up consistently each week to work on routines in the dance studio. This commitment meant our showcase had been choreographed before May half term allowing us plenty of practice in preparation for our showcase performance at the GMS Summer Fest.



On the 5th of July the students were asked to perform to the new Year 7 cohort on their induction day. This gave the dance club an opportunity to run a full dress rehearsal to a crowd for the first time. Despite being a little nervous each of the girls gave a fabulous performance and were showered with praise by staff and students! A real testament to their hard work!

Summer Fest day rolled around, and every single member of dance club performed their hearts out. Pulling off 4 flawless performances in incredibly hot conditions. Well done to every

student involved; Each of you has shown real resilience and responsibility during the run up to these performances.

By Miss I Bateman



GMS REPRESENTS AT THE DANCE WORLD CUP

GMS students Sienna D (8K3) and Bonnie F-K (9E1) had the incredible opportunity to represent team England at the Dance World cup in Spain with Academy One Dance Company. Both students were involved in a number of performances and secured the title of 5th place world champions not once, but twice with their outstanding group dances. All of us at GMS are incredibly proud of all your hard work and resilience you have shown in the run up to the event.



DARTS

A new, exciting club for GMS has been introduced by Mr Ross – DARTS. It runs on a Friday during both break times and has proved very popular indeed. There is room for a few more participants, so go along, have a throw at the dart board and see if this game is for you.

At present, there are two dart boards, meaning a variety of games can take place. It seems the GMS darts group has embraced the skill and is improving week-on-week. Of course, this pleases Mr Ross because fewer dart holes are piercing the wall plaster.

The atmosphere is relaxed and communal, success and disappointment are celebrated and lamented in equal measure. E10 has become a hive of activity on a Friday, with many different dart games being played, the most popular at the moment is Elimination.

This is a sport with many benefits: hand eye coordination, fine motor skills, focus and mental arithmetic. Most importantly it is a lot of fun.

Many thanks go to Alfie Beechey (Year 9), who is a county player, helps run the club and I am very grateful for his expertise.

Mr Ross's ambition is to hold a fixture with another school, which will lift the profile of the game in GMS and put it securely on the school map.

Inclusivity Events

GOLF

On Tuesday 3rd May Huntswood Golf Club kindly hosted an event for our students to attend. Students completed seven tasks to develop different shots and skills using a range of clubs. Students developed their putting skills, driving skills and ability to use a wedge.



Some students have asked to go back and the golf club kindly

offered more sessions on the weekend, which I know some students have been lucky enough to attend and reports suggest they are progressing well.

GIRLS CRICKET

On a very hot Tuesday afternoon 16 girls attended the cricket session. This involved the students developing their batting, bowling and fielding skills. Awards were handed out during the day for good play, however, some stand out moments from the side lines were; Millie's big hitting, Megan, Emily and Sophie's bowling and Alexa's communication skills to get players out. The girls' enthusiasm through this very hot afternoon did not go unnoticed and we hope to have this opportunity again.



GIRLS IN SPORT DAY

Fight Club with glow sticks, Zumba, football and cricket are just some of the activities the girls had the opportunity to get involved with during the Girls in Sport Day.

Fight club had a military approach of boxing/kicking an inflatable and the girls also had to do press ups in the dark with glow sticks, which they enjoyed. This was a highlight for some of the students; although, others preferred the more traditional approaches to sport. Cricket and football were on the astro and the girls progressed well during these sessions. The girls focused on skill



development within different conditioned games. Some of these games were four square, quick cricket and cats & mouse. The highlight of the day for me was all the students getting involved in every activity. Some students put aside their inhibitions and worries and got involved. Well done to everyone on this fantastic day and we look forward to seeing you at more of the Girls Active events or maybe even becoming Girls Active Leaders.



Thank you to Amelie coming along as a Youth Sports Award Leader to help and support the students throughout the day.

ATHLETICS FESTIVAL



We had the opportunity to take three teams to the Little Marlow Athletics Track on the 7th June for an athletics festival. This was to give more students within the school the opportunity to compete for the school within athletics, most of whom had no previous experience of competitive athletics outside of school. This event was fantastic for building the student's confidence within the different athletic disciplines. Students got to experience competing on a 400m track, with multiple events happening at one time. Students conducted themselves fantastically and were highly organised taking the responsibility to be at their selected events on time. The students were all so excited about the relay and all wanted to be involved, the organisers kindly let us have two relay teams for each race. We won the overall team event as we managed to fill every activity. Well done to all the students involved.

Results:

Junior Girls 1st

Junior Boys 2nd

Open boys 5th

Within PE and around the department we have seen many of these students becoming more involved in our extra-curricular programme and developing the interpersonal skills dramatically, so thank you to all the staff who have let the students attend these different events and festivals.

By Miss E Boddy

MARLOW TOWN REGATTA

Saturday 11th June was a glorious day on the river, with bright sunshine and a fresh breeze. For GMSBC, the hometown regatta is always a major occasion. The racing is run in three divisions or waves, enabling rowers to race in more than one event. We had over 30 crews competing and lots of successes across the day.

Wave 1

The first race of the day was our sixth form double in a straight final against Borlase. The free floating start means that the bank umpire needs to be relied upon to start the crews level and on this occasion the GMS crew got slightly short changed by about 6 feet. A truly epic race followed and neither crew was sure who had won on the line. First blood to Borlase was a disappointment. Two races later our senior boys quad were up against Borlase in another straight final. This time the crews got away level, but this was not so critical as the GMS crew edged steadily in front and while a good race the verdict never seemed in doubt.

We are blessed with a very strong year 8 cohort and the boys were up first in quads, where we had entered three crews. This event had heats with three crews in each, and then the winners of each heat rowed back up to the start for the Final. The main opposition for our boys came from Marlow Rowing Club and Maidenhead rowing club but the final had two of our crews represented. Our faster crew made light work of the opposition coming home several lengths ahead of the others two crews in the final.

For year 10s we had 3 doubles entered for the boys and they had crews from Bryanston and Borlase and Barn Elms as opposition. In the heats the Barn Elms crew got an early lead on two of our doubles but a close race ensued with a few steering difficulties causing the margins to vary over the course with different leaders at times. Barn Elms proved the most consistent on the day and progressed to race our third double in the final. Here there was no doubt and Rafa Quinn and Sam Terret made short work of the double from Putney coming home some lengths ahead.

For year 11s we had Jack Clark in his single. Singles take a considerable amount of skill and entries in this event are specialists in 1x. Jack managed to proceed to the final in fine form and sculled back up to compete in the final. He was lined up alongside two scullers from Magdalen College School. Jack did not have the

best of starts and a third of the way down the course he was in last place, but he then put in an almighty push went through into second and then for a moment had his bows just ahead of the field. The Lead Magdalen sculler fought back to retake the lead and having the inside of the last bend looked in good shape but Jack was not done and in the last 100m raised his rate and edged past to take the win. An excellent result.

Wave 2

Our year 8s were in action again; boys in the octo and the girls in two quads. In the quads it looked like it might be another GMS final but a late crab in our boat meant Headington School managed to overhaul them. However, in the finale there were no mishaps and the other GMS quad left Headington and Marlow in their wake to win convincingly. Meanwhile the boys had a straight final against Marlow Rowing Club and Maidenhead. On the form from the quads we were hot favourites and the boys did not disappoint romping home well ahead of the other two octos.

Our year 9 boys only had two rowers present as most were away on D of E expeditions. The double had a good heat beating two doubles from Radley convincingly but in the final were out matched by a strong Maidenhead crew.

The other win in this wave was the year 11 boys four who made short work of the crews from Monkton.

For the girls Jess Rhodes and Emilia Deering won their heat in the doubles which is the second regatta where these two have made it through to the final. Emily Downing had to work hard in her single to get through to the final beating a girl from Shiplake and another from Borlase. In the final, another GB trialist from Maidenhead proved too strong for her and she had to settle for second.

Wave 3

The year 8s were looking to complete the clean sweep of all the titles with the girls octos and of course they rowed magnificently beating Headington by 4 lengths who in turn were 4 lengths ahead of Marlow Rowing Club.

Our year 10 boys eight drew the Radley A crew for their heat and it was a close race. Coming into the final bend there was probably 1/3 length in it but with Radley having the inside course and a tidier finish they secured the verdict.

Last but far from least we had the Marlow Schools Eights Races. These two races are the highlight of the regatta and has the entire enclosure shouting loudly for one school or the other. Possibly one of the very few moments

in the days racing where rowing disturbs the general socialising in the enclosures.

First was the Girls Eights, and our top quad having narrowly lost to Borlase in the final in the previous wave, we expected a tough race. Last year we won by ¼ length. Borlase got off to a clean start and seem to have a small advantage, but very quickly the GMS crew, maintaining an aggressive pace, edged through and took the lead. Then with every stroke the girls moved further in front and by the Church (half way) had a length lead. From here they continued to move ahead and won to resounding cheers from the enclosures by 3 lengths. For the boys race half an hour later we were firm favourites and the boys did not disappoint romping home to another 3 length victory. Making it a clean sweep for Great Marlow.

Naomi Riches presented the trophies to both crews in the enclosures.

Winning Crews

J18 4x Hugo Loretto, Tom Wiles, James Robson, Henry Gavin

J16 4+ Sal Dunn, Will Clayton, Owain Meredith, Joe Cogan, cox Dan Pressling

J16 1x Jack Clark

J15 2x Rafa Quinn Sam Terrett

J13 4x+ Wilbur Morganti, Archie Gentry, Kavin Ravikumar, Tom Wharfe, Cox Ben Symon

J13 8x+ Wilbur Morganti, Archie Gentry, Kavin Ravikumar, Tom Wharfe, Ben Symon, Charlie Davidson, Valere Ivers-Dreux, Sam Gale, Cox Joel Blatt

WJ13 4x+ Natasha Pendelbury, Bea Spence, Emily Yelloly, Bea Radnedge, Cox Imogen Holder

WJ13 8x+ Natasha Pendelbury, Bea Spence, Emily Yelloly, Bea Radnedge, Jemima Connors, Eleanor Cummings, Lucy Platt, Kayla Shillito, Cox Lyra Wells

Womens eight Emily Downing, Amelia Eldridge, Maddie Jones, Liv Fyfe Peyton Nugent, Poppy Spence, Hannah Angeledes, Charlotte Greening Cox Emilia Deering

Mens eight Tom Wiles, Henry Gavin, Sal Dunn, James Robson, Hugo Loretto, Noah Grottrup, Freddie Grant, Will Clayton, cox Rocco Di Monda

REGATTAS GALORE FOR GMSBC

GMSBC were competing at three different regattas this weekend. On Friday evening our WJ16 quad were at Henley Womens Regatta. Due to pressure on the race timetable, the regatta cut the number of crews in the side by side racing from 16 to 8 out of the nearly 40 entries, which made this a hard challenge for the girls. Having said this, the crew had been going well in training but also had two year 10s in this year 11 event. They had a good time trial race and were pleased with their row. They came 10th just missing out but beating nearly 30 crews. This was disappointing for the crew but still an impressive result for this newly formed crew.

On Saturday the top boys Quads raced at Dorney, which followed the usual pattern of time-trials, which determine which final you race in. Both crews felt they had raced well in the tt and times were closely bunched for each of their finals. The B quad had three other crews in their race who were within 0.5 seconds of them, and then two others who were 3 to 4 seconds faster. They got off slower than the rest of the race and were slightly surprised to find themselves at the back of the field with 500m gone. The crew kept their rhythm and remained well together and executed a good push at 750 as planned. It was clear to the crew that the field was coming back to them and rather than straining to hang on to any gains from their push the continued to eat into the lead of the boats around them. By 1500m, they were had overtaken all but one crew and were moving up on the leaders.

It was a tense last 500, but in the end the effort taken to get back on terms was too much and the crew came second. It was a truly gritty row from the crew and an exciting race to watch. The A crew had a tougher race and finished with no improvement from the tt.

Sunday was Thames Valley park regatta for our younger crews. This is a delightful river regatta with heats, ¼ finals, semis and finals for most events. Lots of side by side racing with plenty to watch and continual cheering from one supporters group or another.

The squad all competed well and many races were tight results. Special mention must go to our talented year 8 girls octo. After their dominance in year 8 octos at Marlow town, they were racing up a year in WJ14 category. If this was not challenge enough, they had incident on the way up to the start which meant a broken rigger and rudder. Sitting back on the rafts for 20 minutes while the coaches tried to fix both of these problems was nerve racking for them but eventually they took off back to the start. Their first race was against Emmanuel School, a major independent school in London. The girls flew down the course looking very impressive and a few lengths a head of the opposition. In the Semi-final they came up against a very well drilled Henley octo. Regular readers will know that Henley are probably the best junior womens club in the country. Having said this the Henley girls were very complementary to our crew

on the start but were slightly taken aback when the girls said they were year 8s.

This was always going to be tough but to make matters worse the steering was becoming unresponsive and Cox Lyra Wells did a fantastic job with clear commands to keep the crew on track and while they lost to this powerful year 9 crew, they were the closest anyone got to these eventual winners.

The other notable performances of the morning were the year 10 boys eight and year 11 boys four. A common feature being Raffy Quinn who had to double up in both due to illness in the J16 four. The eight had a tight race in the first round against Canford and were ½ length down at half way but kept their heads and concentrated on moving their boat, stroke by stroke moved back on terms and then in the push to the line pulled out to win. They then met Bedford who had performed very well at National Schools. Again they were ½ length down at halfway, but this time the opposition was too strong to let them row back. However some great racing and a big step on for this crew.

The J16 four got a bye through to the semi finals and were feeling quite confident. Their first race against Bedford, they got off to a quick start and just moved away from their, winning quite comfortably. In the final, their Opposition, Reading Bluecoats, had done a 3 second faster time than them so it was looking tougher than they expected. For once they were down on the start, and the Bluecoat crew were looking pretty Sharp, but if in doubt just up the rate, which is what the GMS boys did. It was not the prettiest of rows but they inched through to win by a canvass(around 8 feet).

In the afternoon we had the year 8s in action with three boys quads and two girls quads. They all had pretty good races with the best result being one of the girls crews making the semi-finals. The year 10 boys were also back in action in a four and a quad. The four managed to row through Pangbourne college to win their first race but lost by 3 feet to Bluecoats next. The quad on the other hand, got a row over for a no show, then a comfortable win, to end up in the final against Borlase. This was our last race of the day and full of anticipation. For most of this crew it would be their first outright win of the season.

The boys had a good start and it was quickly apparent that the race was theirs unless they messed up and looking very together they rowed steadily away from SWB.

A busy and exciting day came to an end with photos of the boys 9, and cox Sophie Wharfe, clutching their tankards.

By Mr F Murison



D of E

BRONZE QUALIFYING EXPEDITION SUCCESS

This year's Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants have taken the challenge by the horns and have embraced the demands of the award with determination and enthusiasm.

80 of our Year 9 students have signed up for the award, and over the last few months have been spending an hour of their week on each of three sections: volunteering, physical and skills. From litter-picking in the local area, helping younger students or being an Eco-Warrior, our GMS students have been making a difference by volunteering in their community. They have participated in training sessions with their sports teams, or in their chosen individual sports to achieve their physical section, or taken up a new active hobby, such as walking or cycling. Many of this year's cohort have developed an existing skill and improved their talents in playing an instrument, acting, drawing or caring for animals. Others have chosen to learn a life skill and participated in the St John Ambulance course or the cookery club at GMS.

Often the most memorable (and eventful!) section for participants in the DofE Award is the expedition section. Whether it's blisters or sunburn, making new friends or discovering new strengths, getting lost or getting soaked, campsite dinner disasters or snoring tent-mates, every participant remembers their DofE expedition, and all have a story to tell.

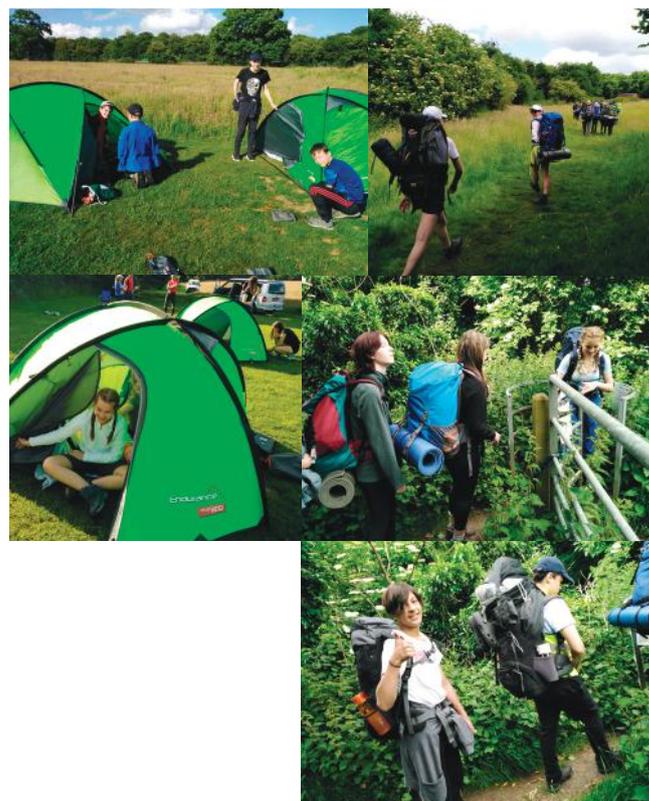
This year's Bronze cohort completed an expedition training day in school. Expedition Leaders from Off Grid Adventures came to GMS to advise the participants about the expedition kit list, looking through the list and explaining about appropriate clothing and footwear. The students were shown how to pack an expedition rucksack correctly, how to keep kit dry, and how the group kit needs to be shared equally. They also looked at expedition food suggestions, discussing good and bad food choices and putting together a menu for their team.

To complete the training required to safely undertake a remotely supervised assessed expedition, the Bronzes needed to complete a weekend practice expedition. This event took place in the beautiful Chilterns

countryside between Stoke Poges and Wooburn Green. Each group had an Expedition Leader guiding them through the weekend. Throughout the first day's walk, leaders taught the students how to use a compass and navigate, map orienteering, first aid and emergency procedures. By the end of the first day, each group had progressed from being closely supervised to finishing their journey without leader supervision. On return to camp, the Bronzes erected their tents and organised their overnight kit. They were shown how to safely use a Trangia stove and prepared themselves a cooked meal.

Now fully trained and prepared, the Bronze cohort were ready for their assessed expedition. This took place on 11th/12th June, in the stunning countryside around Great Missenden. Throughout the expedition, the students' team spirit, resilience and commitment were commented on by the expedition leaders. Despite the hayfever, sunburn and 'navigational challenges', all Bronze expedition participants completed their final assessment with flying colours. These students persevered through the physical and mental demands of a two day walking expedition. GMS are very proud of their achievements and hope to see them progress to the Silver level of the DofE award next year.

By Miss H Murray - GMS DofE Award Manager





the stunning Wye Valley. Exhausted, but elated, all participants successfully completed their expedition and received glowing reports from the expedition leaders.



SILVER DOFE AWARD 2022

Making the decision to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a big commitment to young people, and embarking on the first step of the journey at Bronze level requires students to challenge themselves in a variety of ways: self-organisation, responsibility, perseverance and autonomy. Achieving the four sections of a Bronze DofE Award is hugely rewarding and definitely something to be proud of.

By progressing to the Silver level of the award, our students consolidate the strengths and skills they have already learnt, and embrace the increased level of demands and expectations required by the Silver DofE Award.

This year's Silver cohort decided to take the next step towards the golden pinnacle of the award, and started working at the four sections required for Silver: volunteering, physical, skills and expedition. Many of the students decided to continue with the activities they had chosen for Bronze, but to show further development and progression in these activities. Other students used the opportunity to try something completely new, and dedicated an hour a week of their time participating in a variety of activities, such as: learning a new language, baking, online driving education, improving their swimming skills, mentoring younger students and volunteering in a charity shop and at a community radio station. All ventures they may not have been inclined to undertake if they had not been involved in the DofE Award.

For the fourth section of the award, the expedition section, the expectations on the students' approach to the award, and the skills and knowledge levels required are much higher at Silver level. Their journeys are an hour longer each day, and the expedition is increased by an extra day and a night. The Silver expedition took place in Wales at the beginning of July. The mode of transport was canoeing, and the students enjoyed three days and two nights making their way through



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is an internationally recognised youth achievement programme. It enables a young person to develop their mind, body and spirit in a non-competitive environment. The benefits and rewards for participants are endless and its ability to elevate their self-confidence and aspirations should never be underestimated.

GMS are very proud of the Year 10 students who have participated at the Silver level of the award this year, and wish them every success should they decide to go for Gold!

SILVER DOFE AWARD ASSESSED EXPEDITION

After successfully completing their training and practice expedition, this year's Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award cohort were ready to undertake their assessed DofE expedition. On Thursday 30th June, the 22 Silver DofE participants set off in the school minibuses, their destination: Ty Rhosyn Coch Campsite in Glasbury, Powys, Wales. The journey was long, and at times we encountered black clouds and torrential rain, but nothing could dampen the spirits of this group of resilient year 10 students. They were on a mission to conquer a 3 day journey, travelling down the River Wye in canoes, whatever the weather unleashed.



On arrival at camp (slightly later than planned), the group quickly put up their tents and organised their kit. After a briefing from the expedition leader and some free

time, the students settled down for a good night's sleep in preparation for the journey ahead. After a quiet night, the Silvers arose bright and early, made their breakfast and packed their kit into dry bags and water-tight barrels. After one last check of their route for the day with their instructor, the groups were ready to embark on their journey. One by one, they carried their canoes to the riverside, stored their kit inside, clambered aboard and set off down-river.

Throughout the day, the expedition instructors met up with the groups at pre-arranged checkpoints along the way to check all was okay with the students and to make



sure they were progressing as expected. After a tiring, yet rewarding day (with only one capsize), the Silvers were happy to reach their second campsite in Whitney-on-Wye. I was thrilled and extremely proud to receive the following email from a member of the public later

in the evening:

'My husband and I arrived at Ty Rhosyn Coch camping and caravan site yesterday lunchtime to be told that there would be a group of youngsters arriving later in the evening for their Silver DofE.

Whilst saying "no problem", we both looked at each other, with the same thoughts:

Will we get any sleep tonight?

What will the toilets and showers be like (there are only 2 of each)?

What will this nice, peaceful little riverside retreat become?

I'm sure you get the picture.

However, our concerns were totally unfounded.

Your pupils were quiet, courteous and considerate. The communal facilities were kept clean and tidy and, in fact, they were better neighbours than we encounter generally when we are away. More importantly, they were happy and obviously enjoying themselves, which was a pleasure to see.

We hope their weekend goes well and they pass their silver with flying colours. They are a credit to themselves, their parents/carers and the school.

Good luck to them all for the future too.'

On day 2, the Silvers set off again. With the first part of their journey completed, they were confident and looking forward to the day ahead. The weather was on their side and all groups were travelling at a good pace, so the students set off in good spirits.



The instructors reported back to me throughout the day and kept me informed of their progress, and apart from another capsize, their journeys were fairly calm and uneventful. Until..... about 20



minutes from the next camp at the end of a second exhausting day, an unfortunate couple of newlyweds, who had been enjoying an adventurous honeymoon canoeing on the beautiful River Wye managed to capsize! Clinging on to their upturned canoe in the freezing cold water, they panicked as they watched their belongings bob away downstream without them. However, luck was on their side, as some of our GMS Silver superheroes witnessed this disaster and quickly came to the rescue. While an instructor helped the drenched honeymooners back into their boat, some of our amazing students hurried after the disappearing belongings and returned them all to the very grateful couple. I make that proud moment number 2!

The morning of day 3 started with a quiet determination. A mixture of tiredness, 'teenagerness' and sunburn had affected a number of the Silvers and they were all having to dig deep to find the resources and energy to get on the water and complete the last day of their expedition. In true GMS style, the cohort summoned up some reserves of grit and resilience to embark on the last leg of their adventure. Once in their canoes, the pace and the mood picked up and all groups managed to reach their destination point in Hereford well ahead of schedule. After pulling their canoes onto the riverbank and organising their kit, the Silver had a debrief with their instructors and delivered a presentation they had put together over the weekend as part of their expedition experience.

Cue proud moment number 3.....

The expedition leader was pleased to inform this year's Silver DofE cohort that they had all fulfilled the 20 expedition conditions required by the Award, and had all successfully completed their assessed expedition.



I'd like to offer my huge congratulations to these students on achieving the expedition section at the Silver level of the award. I hope they continue to make us proud and progress to the Gold level next year.

Year 8 Camp Night 2022

After extra-curricular events being restricted for last 2 years, it was fantastic to be able to put the Year 8 Camp Night back on the school calendar again. An opportunity for students to socialise and spend time with their friends, and to camp out under the stars.

The 2022 camp night took place on the hottest day of the year so far, so on arrival at the camping field on Westhorpe Farm, Little Marlow, GMS students and staff welcomed the sight of a huge open-sided marquee offering some cool shade.

The students soon organised themselves into groups of 8, and took their bags and sleeping bags into the bell tents. Each student had been allocated an airbed and the excited Year 8s quickly chose where they were sleeping and made their bell tents comfortable.

Once they had organised their sleeping arrangements, the students made their way back into the marquee, where they sat with their friends and enjoyed a barbeque dinner, followed by delicious doughnuts provided by the parents of a student whose birthday it was that day.

With dinner digested and tables cleared, the campsite activity leaders took the students out into the field to take part in some group activities, including tug of war, gutter-ball, and welly wanging. The evening had started to cool down a bit and after their games, the students had some time to relax outside with their friends and enjoy some free time before bed.

A culmination of very hot weather and the novelty of sharing a big tent with 7 other students resulted in a night of very little sleep, and by morning the campers were more than ready for their breakfast of cereals, followed by a cooked breakfast. After packing up their belongings, the Year 8s were collected and taken home, where they probably went straight to bed for some sleep!

Extra-curricular activities are an important part of a young person's development. These events offer enrichment, and the opportunity to develop personal and interpersonal skills, leadership and teamwork and to improve mental wellbeing.

By Miss Helen Murray -DofE award Manager

Extra-Curricular Coordinator



GMS Swimming Scheme

Learning to swim is an important life skill, and Year 7 non and weak swimmers are invited to participate in the swimming scheme at the start of each academic year. The 2020 Year 7 cohort were unable to take advantage of this opportunity due to covid restrictions, so I was pleased to be able to provide a term of lessons for these students, who are now finishing Year 8.

The lessons have been taking place at Wycombe Leisure Centre every Monday morning throughout the summer term. The aim of the lessons is to improve confidence and stamina in the water, develop breathing and stroke techniques and ultimately be able to swim 25m unaided.

Great Marlow School offers a wide range of extra-curricular trips and activities, many of which involve students being on, or near water. The lessons provide students with the opportunity to enable them to be included in all extra-curricular activities, and also to teach them an essential life skill.

Part of the course includes a water safety and survival lesson. The students participated in the annual Drowning Prevention Week campaign, created by the Royal Life Saving Society UK, which aims to educate people to enjoy water safely, to keep their families and friends safe and to know what to do in an emergency.

Over 400 people die each year in the UK and Ireland from accidental drowning. 40% of these people had no intention to enter the water. To ensure that everyone can enjoy their summer break and enjoy being in or around water but be safe in the knowledge that they, and their children, have the skills and understanding about water safety, which could potentially save a life, the RLSS UK has a range of free educational resources available on their website for children, young people, parents and carers, to equip everyone across the UK and Ireland with the skills and knowledge to make the right decisions about water safety.

After the tragic loss of one of our students, who drowned aged 13 in the River Thames in Marlow at the start of the summer holidays 8 years ago, the swimming scheme was set up to provide non and weak swimmers, starting at GMS in Year 7, with the opportunity to learn this vital life skill.

The swimming scheme will resume in September and participation will be offered to our new intake of Year 7 students. When the scheme is completed, students are invited on a reward trip to the waves and slides leisure pool at Windsor Leisure Centre.

By Miss H Murray

Friends of Great Marlow

Our community's ongoing generosity has meant that FoGMS has been able to fund and support lots of exciting projects this Summer term to benefit all our students.

We have been able to give £2,500 for new inclusive use, recycled picnic benches in our outdoor space which we hope all the students are enjoying using.

FoGMS also contributed £7500 towards the new SEN Outdoor Zen Space which is in the process of construction and soon to be decorated.

In September, as we do annually, we will contribute £11,400 for the Minibus leases, which is our main ongoing financial commitment to school.

FoGMS has been really busy planning ahead and in the Autumn term we will be back with a number of fun, social community events which we will announce soon, so we look forward to seeing you there!

In the meantime, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Summer break and sincere thanks for your ongoing, kind support. None of these things happen without you!

FoGMS Committee



AND FINALLY....

We are edging ever closer to reaching the fundraising goal of £25,000 we set ourselves for this year.

Last term you have raised:

First Aid Course £120

EasyFundraising £76.01

AmazonSmile £158.33

Uniform Sale £400

Rock The Moor Tickets sales £732

Which gives us a Grand Fundraising Total so far for this academic year of:

£18,487.55

this is already absolutely incredible, thank you all. We still have a few final events coming up and the support for them from this school community is very much appreciated.

Great Marlow School
Bobmore Lane
Marlow Bucks
SL7 1JE

COMMITTEE NEWS - positions to be filled for next year.

As we are approaching the end of the school year, this is our opportunity to offer up positions within the FoGMS Committee, specifically Chair, Vice-Chair together with new Committee Members.

So if you are interested please email fogmschair@gmail.com.

The hand-over will be fully supported by the existing officers and will take place at our AGM on 21st September 2022.

Save the Dates for Autumn Term

September 21st 9:30 am

New Parents Coffee Morning – coffee morning for the New Year 7 parents in the school canteen. Meet some of the FoGMS Committee, grab a uniform spare bargain off the sale rails.

September 21 – EVENING 7pm. AGM

FoGMS AGM – open to all, please do come along and hear what has been achieved by the current committee over the past academic school year.

September 27th

First Aid Courses – Tuesday 27th September. Claire Street, Managing Director of Child Matters First Aid will run another series of courses for GMS at the Redgrave centre. October 13th (provisional date)

October 13th (provisional date)

Year 7 disco night - A traditional welcome to the new year 7 children from FoGMS, a disco night in the school just for the Year 7 students.

October 15th

Curry & Karaoke - October 15th 7pm to 11pm - Enjoy a fantastic curry dinner provided by the best Indian restaurant in Marlow and sing your heart out along with the amazing 3 minute Rockstar band, tickets will go on sale via parentpay shop once we return in September.

November 3rd (provisional date)

Year 8 disco date – after the success of running a Year 8 disco last year we will try and accommodate this again. This is the proposed date and will be confirmed in the new school year. A disco evening in school just for the Year 8 students.